

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 1496.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 1856.

PRICE
FOURPENCE
Stamped Edition, 5d.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.—The NEXT MEETING will be held at CHELTENHAM, commencing on August 6, 1856, under the Presidency of Professor DAWBNEY, M.A., F.R.S. &c.

The meeting room will be the Town Hall, Montpellier.

Notices of Communications intended to be read to the Association, accompanied by a statement whether the author will be present at the Meeting, may be addressed to John Phillips, M.A., F.R.S., Assistant General Secretary, Magdalen Bridge, Oxford; or to Capt. Robertson, Richard Bell, Esq., F.R.S., and J. West Hugall, Esq., London, or to Mr. Chetwray.

JOHN TAYLOR, F.R.S., General Treasurer.

Queen-street-place, Upper Thames-street, London.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC SOCIETY, REGENTS PARK.

The LAST EXHIBITION this Season of PLANTS, FLOWERS, and FRUITS will take place on WEDNESDAY, July 9th. Tickets to be obtained at the Gardens only, by orders from Fellows of the Society, price 5s.; or on the day of Exhibition, 7s. 6d. each.

Gates open at Two o'clock. Carriages to set down and take up either at the North Gate or at the Royal Exchange.

The North Gate opens directly into the covered Exhibition Ground.

N.B. Exhibition Tickets not used on the 9th will be admitted to the Gardens any day between July 10 and August 1, Sundays excepted.

A RUNDEL SOCIETY.—The Seventh Annual

Publication is now ready for Members who have paid the Subscription for 1855, viz.:—

1. Four Wood Engravings from the Frescoes of Giotto in the Arena Chapel, Nos. 22-25.

2. A Catalogue of Sculptures in Ivory, 4to, containing Mr. D. Wyat's Lecture of June 29th, and Mr. Oldfield's Catalogue of the Fac-similes of Ancient Ivory Carvings in the Society's Collection, with Nine Photographs by J. A. Spencer, in a cover designed by Mr. D. Wyat.

3. A Catalogue of Fac-similes may be seen at the Office, and are sold, in Classes, to Members and the Public.

Annual Subscription, £1. 14s.

24, Old Bond-street.

JOHN NORTON, Secretary.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND, CHELMSFORD, 1856.

PROGRAMME.

TUESDAY, July 15.—WEDNESDAY, 16.—The Implement Yard open from Ten o'clock in the Morning till Six o'clock in the Evening, on Tuesday; and from Seven o'clock in the Morning till Six o'clock in the Evening, on Wednesday, at an admission-charge of 2s. 6d. for each person. Machinery will be exhibited at work on each of those days at the following hours:—

I. Worked by Steam, or other (than Hand) Power.

Thrashing Machines	from 11 till 1 o'clock.
Tile and Brick Machines	12 .. 2 ..
Saw and other Mills	1 .. 3 ..
Coch-Engines	2 .. 4 ..

II. Worked by Hand Power.

Corn-Cutters	from 11 till 1 o'clock.
Tile Machines	12 .. 2 ..
Mills	1 .. 3 ..
Turnips	2 .. 4 ..
Oilcake-Breakers	2 .. 4 ..
Winnowing-Machines, Barley-Hummers, &c.	2 .. 4 ..
Miscellaneous	2 .. 4 ..

WEEDING.—At the General Show-Yard, the Judges will inspect the Live Stock and Farm-Poultry, and to award the Prizes.

At One o'clock (or as soon after as all the Judges shall have delivered in their awards, of which Notice will be given to the Public) to be admitted into the Cattle-Yard and to the Exhibition of Farm-Poultry, on the payment of one shilling per person at the Special Entrances. Masters of Council and Governors of the Society being admitted by Tickets to be purchased at the Finance Department of the Society at the Show-Yard. At Eight o'clock in the Evening the Cattle and Poultry Yards will be closed.

THURSDAY, 17.—The General Show-Yard of Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Pigs, Farm-Poultry and Implements open to the Public from Six o'clock in the Morning till Six in the Evening; admission 2s. 6d. each person.

The Dinner of the Society in the Pavilion adjoining the Show-Yard, at Four o'clock; the doors to be opened at Three o'clock.

FRIDAY, 18.—The General Show-Yard open to the Public from Six o'clock in the Morning till Six in the Evening; admission 2s. 6d. each person.

General Meeting of the Members, and distribution of the Foreign Prizes, in the Shire Hall, at Ten o'clock in the forenoon.

President—LORD PORTMAN.
Stewards of Departments.

Cattle—Mr. Woodward; Sir Stafford Henry Northcote, Bart. M.P.; Mr. Jones.

Imperial—Mr. Blandish; Mr. Wren Hoskyns; Sir Archibald Keppel Macdonald, Bart.

Poultry—Mr. Joseph Cooke, Mayor of Colchester.

Finance—Colonel Chaloner; Mr. Fisher Hobbs.

Sale of Tickets—Mr. Henry Wilson.

Recruit—Admiral Sir James Stirling; Mr. Raymond Barker.

Fallow-Diseases—Sir John V. B. Johnston, Bart. M.P.; Mr. John Villiers Shelley, Bart. M.P.; Mr. Bramston, M.P.; Mr. Braundeth.

General Arrangement of Show—Mr. Braundeth Gibbs.

By order of the Committee—JAMES HUDSON, Secretary.

By the Regulations of the Society—

All Persons admitted into the Show-Yard, or other places in the temporary occupation of the Society during the Meeting, shall be subject to the Rules, Orders, and Regulations of the Council.

PAVILION DINNER TICKETS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS.

At the Finance Department of the Show-Yard.

Pavilion Dinner Tickets, price 10s. each (including one pint-bottle of wine) will be sold at the Finance Department of the Show-Yard on the Wednesday and Thursday of the Show week, between the hours of 10 o'clock in the forenoon and 3 in the afternoon each day.

Subscriptions due to the Society will be received by the Finance Committee at their department adjoining the public entrance to the Show-Yard.

THE ARCHITECTURAL MUSEUM, CANON-ROW, WESTMINSTER.

The ANNUAL CONVERSATIONE will be held in the Rooms of the Museum on WEDNESDAY, July 16, instead of July 2, as announced in the Card of the Previous Session.

The Chair to be taken at Eight o'clock.

GEORGE GILBERT SCOTT, Treasurer.

JUNE 27, 1856.

HENRY CLUTTON, Hon. Sec.

THE INVITATION.—THE SCANDINAVIAN

SOCIETY OF NATURALISTS will hold its SEVENTH MEETING, in the hall of CHRISTIANIA, on the 12th—13th of July next.

The object of the meeting is to bring the Sciences of Norway to the honour of inviting Physiologists in Europe to take part in the proceedings, and request the favour of a previous intimation from such gentlemen as may intend to honour the Christiania, May, 1856.

CHR. HANSTEEN, Professor of Astronomy.

CHR. DEERK, Professor of Physiology.

F.C. FAYE, Professor of Medicine.

SIGNOR A. BIAGGI'S ITALIAN LECTURES.

The Eleventh Lecture will be delivered on MONDAY, June 26, at 4 o'clock, at Mr. Roche's Educational Institute, 28, Somerset-street, Portman-square. Subject: "La Letteratura del presente secolo in Italia."

The Twelfth Lecture on the FOLLOWING MONDAY,

on the same Subject.

Classes as usual at the above address, and at Cadogan Gardens.

PROFESSOR ARRIVABENE, Lecturer on

ITALIAN LITERATURE at London University College, GIVES

PRIVATE LESSONS in ITALIAN, qualifying his Pupils by a rapid course to Write and Speak the Language, to Declaim and Sing in it, &c. Prof. A. attend Schools in town or country, makes Companions, and is open to engagements for Public Lectures. Address 4, St. Michael's-place, Brompton.

A COURSE OF EVENING DEMONSTRATIONS ON MICROSCOPES AND AQUARIUM, by SAMUEL HIGHLEY, F.G.S. F.C.S. &c., more especially arranged for those about to visit the sea-side or country, and desirous of establishing Microscopic or Freshwater Aquariums. The Course also includes Micro-Photography, and will commence on TUESDAY, July 8, at 8 P.M. Fee, One Guinea.

Promises and Tickets may be had of MESSRS. MURRAY & HEATH, Opticians, 43, Piccadilly.

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PIANOFORTE.—A LADY, a Pupil of the late Madame Dulcken's, is desirous of giving LESSONS on the PIANOFORTE, on moderate terms.—Address M. O., 163, Fleet-street.

TO NATURALISTS and DIRECTORS of MUSEUMS.—The Author, whose leisure hours have been spent in the pursuit of Natural History, would be glad to meet with an engagement where his tastes and abilities might be of service, either as SECRETARY or AMANUENSIS to a Naturalist, or in a Museum. The highest references given.—Address S. W., care of Mr. Steeland, Clerkenwell, N.

A GENTLEMAN, 25 years of age, lately an Officer of the Royal Artillery, is extremely anxious for some such post as that of PRIVATE SECRETARY or AMANUENSIS, or to keep Books, or any work of a like kind, to which his whole time and services would be earnestly devoted for the benefit of his employer.—Apply to GEORGE CLARIDGE, Esq. 11, Mark-lane.

WANTED, by a Bookseller in the City, ONE or TWO RESPECTABLE LADS. Those who have been accustomed to the Trade preferred.—Apply to G. T., 4, Calthorpe-buildings, City.

TO ADVERTISING AGENTS.—WANTED, in exchange for the insertion of Advertisements, A RACY LONDON LETTER, for an Irish Weekly Provincial Newspaper of extensive circulation.—Apply to C. M. J., care of Messrs Smith & Son, Enn Quay, Dublin.

HOME for GENTLEWOMEN in REDUCED CIRCUMSTANCES, 25 and 28, Queen-square, Bloomsbury. This Benevolent Institution, which accommodates Fifty-seven Ladies, would be nearly self-supporting, if the original debt, for its expenses of furnishing for so large a number, could be cleared off. Sixteen Friends, therefore, offer 10,000*l.* towards a Fund for the establishment of twenty other Dwellings of a like kind; contribute the same sum, there will then be no impediment to its successful operations.

Names of donors will be thankfully received by the Sub-Treasurer, the Rev. M. W. Lusignan, M.A., All Hallows the Great and Less, London. Subscriptions may also be paid to Messrs. Hanson & Co., 1, Pall Mall East.

H. DOBBIN, Secretary.

PRIZE TEMPERANCE SONGS.—The DIRECTORS of the GLASGOW ABSTAINERS UNION hereby invite entries for the PRIZE OF ONE GUINEA for the SONGS Two Guineas for the Second, and One Guinea for the Third, under the following conditions:—1. The subject of the Songs to be the Advantages and Pleasures of Temperance. 2. The Songs not to exceed Six Verses in length, and to be adapted to some Popular Air. 3. The Copyright of the Appointed Day to be the property of the Glasgow Abstainers' Union. 4. The Authors name to be included in a private note; and both to be addressed to Neil M'Neill, Esq., President of the Union, 49, Union-street, on or before the 16th of August next.

Henry Glassford Bell, John Blaikie, Jun., Esq., and James Macrae, Esq., have kindly agreed to act as adjudicators. Glasgow, 2nd of June, 1856.

MAYALL'S PORTRAIT GALLERY, 294, REGENT-STREET, corner of Argyle-place. PHOTOGRAPHS of every size and style uncoloured or highly finished.

DACTYLIC HYPOTYPES, plain or tinted.

STEREOSCOPIC Portraits, singly or in groups.

COPIES on Plate or Paper.

TAKE DAILY.

"Mr. Mayall's portraits represent the high art of the daguerreotype: they are as superior to the generality of such pictures as a delicate engraving is to a coarse woodcut."—Art-Journal, Nov. 1853.

"More pleasing and far more accurate than the generality of such pictures."—Times, July 17, 1854.

FIRST-CLASS PORTRAITS at the LONDON SCHOOL of PHOTOGRAPHY, 78, Newgate-street, and 44, Regent-street, BIRMINGHAM. BUDGET PORTRAITS made in the Prices of Portraits (on paper) since the removal of patent from the Collodion Process. The Portraits formerly charged £0 10 6 are reduced to £0 2 6

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No difference is made in the quality of the Photographs on account of the reduction of price. Duplicate copies are charged half-price.

INSTRUCTION in PHOTOGRAPHY. Three Lessons for 1s. 6d., 10s., and 20s. sets of Apparatus, with full instructions gratis.

J. & S. B. Fuller & Co. Gallery of Fine Art, 34 and 35, Rathbone-

place.

Now ready, prior to (to be continued Monthly),

ROBERT STEPHENSON, Esq. M.P. F.R.S.

&c.; being No. III. of a Series of PHOTOGRAPHIC POR-

TRAITS of LIVING CELEBRITIES. Executed by MAUL &

POLYBLANK, with a Biographical Notice by HERBERT FRY.

No. II. contains the Right Hon. T. B. MACAULAY, M.P. &c.

Maul & Polyblank, 55, Gracechurch-street; David Bogue, 96,

Fleet-street; and all Book and Print Sellers.

39, Tavistock-street, Strand, June 24th, 1856.

WALTON & CO. beg respectfully to inform their Customers and the Public generally that they have now made arrangements which will enable them to supply BOOKS and ENGRAVINGS, delivered free in all parts of the kingdom at the actual advertised prices.

Post-office orders payable at Charing Cross.

TO PUBLISHERS of SCHOOL and JUVENILE BOOKS.—The three usual half-yearly Educational Numbers of THE MANCHESTER WEEKLY ADVERTISER will be published on July 5th, 12th, and 19th.

Publishers desirous of bringing their Publications prominently before the public, and the numerous Scholastic Establishments in Manchester and the district, will oblige by forwarding their Advertisements as early as possible.

The Manchester Weekly Advertiser has a larger scholastic circulation than any other newspaper out of London. Published by J. GALT & CO., Booksellers, Manchester. Office, 55, Market-street.

THE QUARTERLY REVIEW, NO. CXCVI.—ADVERTISEMENTS for the forthcoming Number must be forwarded to the Publisher's by the 5th, and BILLS for insertion by the 7th July.

50, Albemarle-street, London, June 26, 1856.

SAMUEL ROGERS, the Poet.—WALLER &

SON'S PERIODICAL CATALOGUE for JULY will con-

tain an interesting Selection of CHEAP BOOKS from Mr.

ROGERS'S LIBRARY.—Gratia and Post Free.—138, Fleet-

street.

M. R. LILLEY, late of Newman-street, Portrait Painter.—If this should MEET HIS EYE, or be seen by any of his friends, he is requested to communicate with the relations of the late Sir H. Huile, Bart., relative to a Portrait left in his possession, and which they wish to obtain.—Apply to W. WILMER, Esq. 4, Elm-court, Temple.

HYDROPATHY.—MOOR-PARK, near FARNHAM, Surrey, three miles from the Camp at Aldershot, and formerly the residence of Sir William Temple and Dean Swift. Physician, E. W. LANE, A.M. M.D. Edin. Dr. Lane may be CONSULTED in London, at 61, Conduit-street, Regent-street, every TUESDAY, between half-past 12 and 2.

HYDROPATHIC ESTABLISHMENT, Sudbrook Park, near Richmond, Surrey, 50 minutes from London. Terms:—2*l.* guineas per week. Rooms, with two Beds, 4 guineas per week. Farm-house Establishment, 5*l.* 6*d.* per day. Bath Attendant, 4*d.* per week.

FREDERICK THOMSON, Secretary.

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June 20, 1856.

Queen's University, Dublin Castle.

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HERE is a curious book, as our readers will believe when we tell them that it seems to be the joint production of an old skipper and a bookseller's hack. It smells of tar and of paste, and at once suggests a marlingspike and a pair of scissors. Containing some good yarns and good sailor-like feeling and vivacity, it nevertheless bears obvious traces of being a compilation, got up to sell during the present British-American "difficulty."

Perhaps the way to explain its concoction may be as follows:—Mr. Coggeshall, a fine old salt, *at* seventy-two, has seen more than most people—has been abroad under canvas in "the 1812"—and has known personally many brave Yankee seamen of those days in the course of his adventures. He is naturally garrulous and intensely patriotic, and he has a turn for scribbling. The difficulty with England arises; it steps another personage with a sheaf of old newspapers and newspaper cuttings, and suggests to the old blue-jacket a nautical book to suit the day. Mr. Coggeshall turns his quid, and the discussion commences. The skipper sees that privateers have never had justice done to them. Your regular naval heroes are sung, why not your irregular ones? They, too, "brave the battle and the breeze," and should have their share of honour. He and his colleague go to work. The sailor tells stories. The compiler gets lists of captures and provides statistics. Between them is produced a book which contains a great deal of curious and interesting information—a book which you laugh at without despising it, and which you read without forgetting it.

Of course, we must not criticize Mr. Coggeshall with too much seriousness and severity. We much fear that the world will persist in treating privateer's men as being to Blake and Benbow what Claude Duval and Turpin are to Prince Rupert's dragoons. Gallant men, no doubt, always—generous men occasionally—graceful men even sometimes—they may have been. But all these qualities have met in highwaymen, and are common to them with cavaliers, without admitting them to the same rank. It is a little ludicrous to be called on to admire the "Saucy Jack," and then to see as her achievements a long list of captured brigs and schooners laden with cotton, ironmongery, sugar, or barilla. To make such captures was the main business of these heroes; and if they fought well at times, we can give them the credit of strong hands and reckless heads, without ranking them with Nelson and Collingwood.

We might, again, pluck a crow with our skipper for his tone about the British. Here and there the honourable tradition which the American navy established for itself in the war so fills his memory as to disturb his judgment. He writes sometimes as if the wine he drank to the success of the Constitution frigate had remained in his head for forty-four years. For instance, he says of our marines:—"The great portion of their duty is to protect the officers and watch the seamen, to prevent desertion; consequently, they are generally despised and hated by the sailors." Now, this every English seaman, of whatever rank, knows to be nonsense. And, as Mr. Coggeshall waves all the questions at issue about the man-of-war

actions—gives (when he gives any) just which ones he likes—shirks difficult points—and boasts when he should argue—we are relieved from any necessity of historical discussion. In the patriotic department, his colleague has evidently had an eye to the pot; but Mr. Coggeshall has so many good points that we cannot find it in our hearts to be severe with him.—As a specimen of his yarns, we turn to his account of his escape from Gibraltar after being taken prisoner by a British man-of-war, which he tells well. He is to be taken ashore, to the Admiralty Office there, and is resolved to escape.—

"About 9 o'clock, Capt. Wise sent for me, when the following dialogue ensued:—'Well, Coggeshall, I understand you and your officers are required at the Admiralty Office at 10 o'clock, and if you will again pledge your honour, as you did yesterday, that you will neither of you attempt to make your escape, you may go on shore without a guard, otherwise I shall be obliged to send one with you.' I watched his countenance closely, for a moment, to ascertain his real meaning, and whether he was determined to adhere strictly to the words he had just uttered, and then replied, 'Capt. Wise, I am surprised that you should think it possible for any one to make his escape from Gibraltar.' He instantly saw I was sounding him, when he pleasantly but firmly said, 'Come, come, it won't do; you must either pledge your word and honour that neither you nor your officers will attempt to make your escape, or I shall be compelled to send a guard with you.' I felt a little touched, and promptly replied, 'You had better send a guard, sir.' Accordingly, he ordered the third lieutenant to take a sergeant and four marines with him and conduct us to the Admiralty Office. At the hour appointed they commenced the examination where they had left off the day before with Mr. Depeyster. I was sitting in the court-room, and Mr. Allen standing at the door, when he beckoned to me. I instantly went to the door, and found the lieutenant had left his post, and was not in sight. I then asked the sergeant whether he would go with us a short distance up the street to take a glass of wine. He readily complied with my request, leaving the marines at the door to watch Mr. Depeyster, and walked respectfully at a few paces behind us, up the street. (I had been once before at Gibraltar, and understood the town perfectly well.) We soon came to a wine-shop on a corner, with a door opening on each street. While the soldier was standing at the door, Mr. A. and myself entered and called for a glass of wine. I drank a glass in haste, but unfortunately had no small change, and this circumstance alone prevented my worthy friend from going with me. I hastily told him I would cross the little square in front, turn the first corner, and there wait for him to join me. I then slipped out of the shop, passed quickly over the little park, and turned the corner agreed upon, without being seen by the sergeant, while he was watching at the opposite door. I waited some minutes on the corner for Mr. Allen, and was sadly disappointed that he did not make his appearance. I had now fairly committed myself, and found I had not a moment to spare. I therefore walked with a quick step towards the Land Port Gate, not that leading to the Peninsula, but the gate situated at the north-west extremity of the town. My dress was a blue coat, black stock, and black cockade, with an eagle in the centre. The eagle I took care to remove, and then it was *tout-à-fait* an English cockade, and I had, on the whole, very much the appearance of an English naval officer. I said to myself when approaching the guard at the gate, 'Now is the critical moment, and the most perfect composure and consummate impudence are necessary to a successful result.' I gave a stern look at the sentinel, when he returned me a respectful salute, and I was in another moment without the walls of Gibraltar. I walked deliberately down the mole, or quay, where I was accosted by a great number of watermen offering to convey me on board my vessel. I employed one, and after getting off in the bay, he said, 'Captain, which is your vessel?' Here again I was at a loss to decide on an answer, but after gazing for a few moments on the different ships and the flags of

different nations, my eye caught sight of a galion with a Norwegian ensign flying, and I said to myself, 'The Norwegians are a virtuous, honest people, and I am not afraid to trust them.' I had been in their country, and understood the character of these hardy, honest-hearted sons of the North. After a moment's hesitation, I replied to the boatman, 'That is my vessel,' pointing to the friendly galion, and we were soon alongside. I jumped on board, and inquired for the captain, who soon made his appearance. I told him I had something to communicate to him. He told me to follow him into the cabin. I immediately asked him whether he was willing to befriend a man in distress. He said, 'Tell me your story, and I will try to serve you.' I frankly told him I was captain of the American letter-of-marque schooner lately sent into port by the frigate Granicus, and that I had made my escape from the garrison, and desired to get over to Algeciras as soon as possible; that I had money enough, but still I wanted his friendship, confidence, and protection. The good old gentleman had scarcely waited to hear my story to the end, before he grasped me by the hand and said, in a kind and feeling manner, 'I will be your friend, I will protect you; I was once a prisoner in England, and I know what it is to be a prisoner; rest assured, my dear sir, I will do all I can to assist you.' I offered him a dollar to pay and discharge the boatman, and remained myself below in the cabin. He said, 'Put up your money, I have small change, and I will pay him what is just and right.' After despatching the boatman, he returned below, and said, 'Now take off your coat, and put on this large pea-jacket and fur cap.' In this costume, and with a large pipe in my mouth, I was, in less than two minutes transformed into regular Norwegian. Returning again on deck, I asked my good friend the captain whether I could rely on his mate and sailors not to betray me; he said, 'They are honest, and perfectly trustworthy, and you need be under no apprehension on their account.' We took a social dinner together, when he observed: 'I will now go on shore for an hour or two, and hear all I can about your escape, and will come back early in the evening and relate to you all I learn.' In the evening the old captain returned, pleased and delighted. He said he never saw such a hubbub as there was about town; that the whole garrison seemed to be on the lookout, that the Town Major, with the military and civil police, were searching every hole and corner in Gibraltar for the captain of the American privateer; that both of my officers were put in confinement, and that the lieutenant of the frigate who had the charge of us had been arrested; in short, there was 'the devil to pay,' because the captain of the privateer could not be found. The next morning I stated to my worthy friend how extremely anxious I was to go over to Algeciras, and how mortified I should be to be taken again on board the Granicus. He answered, 'Leave that to me: I am well acquainted with a gang of smugglers who belong to Algeciras and often sell them gin, tobacco, and other articles of trade; they will be here on board my galion at 9 o'clock this evening, and will probably start for Algeciras about midnight, after they have made all their purchases. When they come I will arrange with them to take you as a passenger.' About 9 o'clock that evening, a long, fast-rowing boat came silent along side, filled with men; and certainly a more desperate, villainous-looking set was never seen. Their leader and several of his men came on board the galion, and after having purchased several articles, and taken a glass of gin all around, the old captain inquired of the patron of the boat what hour he intended to start for Algeciras, and said, that the reason of his asking the question was that his brother wanted to go to that place for a few days upon business, and he wished to engage a passage for him, and that he should be glad if his brother could lodge for a few days with his family. He answered that he should return again about midnight, and would willingly take the captain's brother, and that if he could put up with rough fare, he was welcome to stay at his house as long as he pleased. I accordingly got ready my little bundle, which consisted of a few small articles, such as a shirt or two (for I did not forget to wear three at the time I left the Granicus), and stowed it away in

my hat. I agreed with my friend, the Norwegian, to leave the cap and pea-jacket with the American Consul at Algeciras, to be returned to him by some safe conveyance in the course of a few days. Agreeable to promise the boat came on board precisely at 12 o'clock, and after my friend, the captain, had again cautioned the patron of the boat, to take good care of his brother, we started."

The general reader will find some more matter in the way of interesting reading as good as this in the book, though not much. The greater part of it comes under the head of "information," — has been compiled for historical purposes,—but is not used with any historical genius or discrimination. It will be found useful, however, to the student of the time,—and now and then gives touches of that true and vivid interest which is awakened by stories of adventure. The most is made of what the privateers did, for whole pages are filled with such items of capture as this:—"Three brigs, laden with lumber, taken by the John and released."—"A schooner from Jamaica, with 160 puncheons of rum, prize to the John."—"Brig James sent into Falmouth by the Bunker Hill."—This is rather dull reading it must be confessed,—and if one did not laugh occasionally at the idea that such exploits are expected by the author to entitle their performers to a "proud niche" in the "temple of fame," one would find the perusal tedious. We set down this detail to the gentleman with the scissors.

It is worth the study of our seamen to observe how many privateers managed to get abroad during the American War, and do execution, in spite of our blockading squadrons. Our author estimates the whole number of privateers and letters-of-marque at 250 sail. Baltimore, so famous for her beautiful clippers, supplied 58; New York, which so recently kept up her renown by the America, 55; Salem, 40; Boston, 31; Charleston, 10,—one of which, the Saucy Jack, was very successful, and (as our honest and enthusiastic tar would no doubt put it) "acquired immortal renown." The schooner rig was the favourite rig apparently,—the pilot-boats appear in many cases to have been taken as the models for construction,—and the chief arm was "Long Tom," a big centre gun. All the features of these privateers improved during the war, and they seem to have been generally fast sailers and well and dashingly handled.

This book, with all its oddities of form and taste, deserves a place of its own in nautical literature,—and is all the more curious, because in these times of steam and screws the kind of life which it depicts seems more and more to belong to the past.

Speeches at the Bar and in the Senate, by the Right Hon. Wm. Conyngham, Lord Plunket, Lord High Chancellor of Ireland. Edited, with a Memoir and Historical Notices, by J. C. Hoey. Dublin, Duffy.

A circumstance which should reconcile the most vehement republican or separatist Celt of Ireland to the English ascendancy is, that the Saxon language has enabled the most oratorical of races to make known their genius to Europe. Who would have heard the cry of "Justice to Ireland" had it been raised in the tongue of Brian Baroibhe? A popular poet died in Pesth the other day, and, as he had been true to the people, they raised 7,000*l.*, in brief subscription, for his widow. A poet who wins this insurance on his life in a nation's love surely sang well. But how many ever heard the name of Vörösmarty? Had his language been German, he would have been known as extensively as Heine or Freiligrath! It is true that Ireland might have had her Kossoths, orators so genuine and so great that a single language is but a note in their

inspired symphony. But the chances are that, had we not wronged his race by making it intelligible, Mr. Smith O'Brien would have had to harangue a public meeting of English sympathisers in the primitive and incoherent roar of the great ancestor of terrible name from whom he springs. At any rate, Mr. Hoey, who insults and goads the Saxon weekly, in the alertly rebellious *Nation* newspaper, should show some gratitude for the fact that he can appeal against Saxon institutions in the Saxon language; and in bringing out an honourable series of the Orators of Ireland, he might indicate a sense of obligation to the British public, who are supposed, more or less, to attend to the issue,—the orators of Ireland being also orators of England.

"This is the first collection of Lord Plunket's Speeches that has been published," says the Editor. This is a very remarkable neglect, seeing the lengthy and eventful period Plunket traversed, the activity he displayed and the importance he attained within it, and the enduring fame which he enjoyed during the whole time of being, all in all, the first orator—as distinct from the debater and the agitator—of the three kingdoms. In regard to the Catholic question, when that was shaking ministries and maddening kings, he was in Parliament what O'Connell was "out of doors":—pre-eminently the leader. Reaching the English House of Commons with Grattan, identified in the same way with the struggle on College Green against the Union, he was eminently more suited for the English atmosphere; and he completed an English career—for a short interval being our Master of the Rolls, to the horror of outraged Westminster Hall—by going up with an Irish peerage to the English House of Lords, sitting side by side with Wellington, and fighting Emancipation to 1829. He suited the English because, in fact, he was much more English than Irish. He was of an olden Presbyterian family, and his style was not Celtic even in the days of his hot youth, when Dublin, in the fire of its politics, during the American War and the French Revolution, seemed but a *quartier* of Paris. Later, an austere severity of diction, in conveying his massive and inexorable logic, marked the man,—always, as it was said, looking like a Lord Chancellor. But, in some measure, he outlived his renown, and, in forgotten retirement, achieved the age in which men foreknow posterity. When the Whigs, for the benefit of Lord Campbell (of whom Plunket, in descending from the Bench, and addressing the Bar, spoke as a "person"), thrust the great orator out of the Lord Chancellorship, thus consummating one of the jobs of our time, he gave way with sullen dignity, and turned his back on the world of Whiggism in good faith,—frowning, if not fretting, for the rest of his long life in absolute retreat. Lord Campbell got on, and the Catholic question came to be forgotten, with other great settlements; and Plunket entered the list of names that are written, not spoken. Yet that name was so great, and was so often written by great men who had known his matchless powers of argumentative invective, that it is strange we have been left to publish his orations for the first time in 1856.

Prefixing to this collection is a Memoir, by the Editor, of singular merit, as a literary performance, and as a picturesque summary of the history of the thirty years during which Plunket was a large character in the eyes of the British people. The writer, it is evident, in dealing with Plunket, who was essentially for law and order—"a disciple of Burke, tempered by Blackstone"—and who, in his ardent era, was counsel against Robert Emmett—has greatly to subordinate his

own less Conservative political views; and, doing this honestly, he succeeds in presenting a picture of Plunket and the period that must be admitted to be as candid as it is clever.

This sketch is warm, but in the basis of facts has no exaggeration.—

"The time too was propitious of opportunity. He came in the interval of two great parliamentary eras—while the contemporaries of Pitt and Fox were gradually retreating from public life, and before Peel, Canning, or Brougham had yet risen to the full perfection of their powers. The Irish character never stood in higher repute. For fifty years before, almost the greatest names which illuminated the history of the Commons had been Irish. There were dozens of old members, anxious to hear the new orator, who had listened to the inspired, majestic, and opulent wisdom of Burke, to the popular vigour of Barre, to the splendid passion of Sheridan, to the savage satire of Francis. Grattan's lustrious energy, Ponsonby's manly sense, Tierney's trenchant irony, Canning's classic tropes and elegant sarcasm, were, at the time, the greatest intellectual attractions of the House. Plunket spoke to them in a new and unexpected strain. In what he said, a most elaborate logic, a rare depth of meditation, and an austere gravity of tone, half statesmanlike, half judicial, were splendidly combined with a singular purity and precision of language, and an extraordinary, vehement, and unflagging intensity of expression. It was more like the language of some great noble of the robe, speaking with the sense that the estates of the realm really hung upon his words, than the common partisan declamation of the House of Commons, which has no horizon but the opposite benches and the reporters' gallery. The greatest authorities in and out of the House, declared that he reached the very highest style of parliamentary oratory—a style in comparison with which Canning's was flashy, and Brougham's coarse, and Peel's thin. Old Charles Butler had sat in the gallery of the House from far-back penal days, when there was not a flicker of hope for the Catholics. He had heard Chatham, North, Pitt, Fox, Burke, speak their greatest speeches, with a fastidiously critical ear; and he declared that Plunket's speech of 1821 had never been surpassed in the British Senate. Of his very first appearance, it was unanimously admitted that no such speech had been heard in the House of Commons since Sheridan's Begum oration. Lord Dudley's was an opinion upon political talents and effects equal to Horace Walpole's upon *virtù* and *belle lettres*,—he repeatedly declared that for its gravity and sagacity, its energy and intensity, its exactitude, its sober and stately grace, he preferred Plunket's to all other styles that he had known or read of. 'I wish you had heard him,' he wrote of the Peterloo Speech, 'in answer to Mackintosh. He assailed the fabric of his adversary, not by an irregular damaging fire that left parts of it standing, but by a complete rapid process of demolition that did not let one stone continue standing upon another.' That single speech admittedly saved the Cabinet. It was Mackintosh's own admission, that if Plunket had been regularly bred to Parliament, he would have made the first public figure of the period. All the great Commoners of his era admitted his supremacy as freely as had his old mates of the Historical Society. Last, and most marvellous tribute of all, hardly credible of the House of Commons! He is said, on several of the Catholic Claims' Debates, to have converted various votes to his side, (so many as six, it is alleged, upon one occasion,) by very dint of conscientious conviction."

Sir Robert Peel has written:—"Lord Plunket was, in my opinion, the most powerful and able advocate the Catholics ever had. I will say that he, more than any other man, contributed to the success of the Roman Catholic question." This was not said in an excited hour, as when Sir Robert, always eager to do justice to others, recognized the "unadorned eloquence" of Mr. Cobden, but twenty years after the Catholic question was at rest, always pending Mr. Spooner.

This is interesting, on two points often debated in reference to Plunket.—

"He was not a great judge in the opinion of the Four Courts—rather, be it said, he was not so great a judge as his former fame had led men to expect he would prove. But after a position at the Bar, in which his character had towered by its moral and intellectual elevation, over a bench filled by much inferior men, and after the illustrious and powerful station which he had so long occupied in the senate, it is easy enough to understand that neither the Common Pleas nor the Court of Chancery was likely to excite his faculties, or administer a fresh impulse to his ambition. As he grew old, it began to be observed that he was of an intensely indolent disposition. The threescore years and ten allotted to man's life had almost elapsed ere he reached the woolsack—and, spent in such arduous and unremitting exertion, might well have wearied and worn away even that massive intellect and those athletic energies. In his most vigorous days, indeed, it is said that his best work was the fruit of rapid, ready, and intense effort rather than the result of patient and plodding industry. Old attorneys say that he was seldom known to note a brief, and that he digested his business as he drove into town from the beloved shades of Old Connaught. Of the method of his public speaking he told Sheil, who told George Henry Moore (so that the tradition reaches us through a line of orators accomplished in the art) that he always carefully prepared to the very syllable the best passages and the best only of his great speeches, and used these as a kind of rhetorical stepping-stones, trusting to his native fluency and force for sustaining the style. Sheil said, what all who ever heard and all who read Plunket will confirm, that so consummate was the art with which this was done, one could never discern where the prepared was welded into the extemporaneous. But certain it is believed to be, that many of his great sentences—that for instance in which he did not say that History was no better than an old Almanack—had been carefully constructed and finished *ad ungum* long before the occasions came upon which they were applied. It is easier to believe this of a style with the coruscating brilliancy of Grattan's than of one with such a stately and sustained rhythm, and out of whose own innate and vivid vitality, the grand, simple figures seem to flash. Of his wit, Parliament seldom saw a specimen; but some of the best anecdotes of the Four Courts are those which record its virile ease and attic finish."

What Plunket said of his method of preparing his speeches is, of course, absolute; and there is every evidence in this collection that besides this, he edited the reports of his speeches. They do not read like a reporter's account of an oration: they are too stiff, exact, and balanced. This is our misfortune in regard to all orators; but less, perhaps, in regard to Cicero and Demosthenes than to Sydney and Somers, Pitt and Fox—that the reports of them are delusive while their own reports of themselves are still more delusive. Future ages may know why Kossuth and Cobden, Gladstone and Bright, Brougham and Derby, were considered orators; but we can do very little more than guess the sort of thing Cromwell said in the House, on attempting oratory, or what Dr. Sacheverell told the mob. The distinction made between the compact compressions of the classic oration and the diffuseness of modern speaking in England and America does not account for the essential difference which we find in a report of Plunket and a report of Lord John Russell, who heard and admired Plunket. Oratory must always have been much the same: for we find Brougham laying down Demosthenes' rules, and yet speaking for seven continuous days, "using every word in the English language twice over," as an inordinate laudatory biographer says of him. When the Germans had their loose Parliament in the "Unity" year, in the St. Paul's Kirche at Frankfort, they, not practised up to the British point of elaboration, talked speeches that lasted very nearly as long as Lord Palmerston's, for which Peel, in his own very last speech, gave the praise that it endured from the

sunset of one day to the dawn of another day. The French language is adapted to the classic compression; but while Vergniaud, a very vehement man, lives in a few pages of little books, Thiers, in the last Constituent Assembly, covered a page of the *Times*. Oratory is necessarily repetition; most so in the oratory that charms a mob and catches a jury; and least so with the intelligent audience of a Senate; but even there it is most effective when free and full. When Eschines read the speech of Demosthenes to the audience which decided that it was better than that of Eschines, he exclaimed "Ah, if you had but heard it!"—and may he not have meant—"It was such a very different thing from this?" What illustrates this is the history of the "Gallery" in the House of Commons. Formerly entrance was gained there by ordinary accomplishments and quick apprehension; latterly the merest mechanical facility is the best qualification. In the transition from one system to the other curious contrasts occurred, suggesting the light being thrown upon oratory. It so happened that the speech of Sir Robert Peel, in resigning office in 1846, was "taken" for the *Times* by two gentlemen remarkable for learning, talent, and success in different walks of literature. They were of great experience in Parliament, and they had reported Lords Canning and Plunket—the very speeches which had spread these fames to the world. But when they reached the office, to transcribe their notes, they found that a new man, a short-hand writer of the modern expertness, had been taking a "check note;" and the two scholars had to sit down and write to the dictation of the stenographer. The speech turned out was not elegant; but it was Peel's, and the public liked it.

Revelations of Prison Life; with an Enquiry into Prison Discipline and Secondary Punishments. By George Laval Chesterton. 2 vols. Hurst & Blackett.

Mr. Chesterton has had a rare experience of human frailty; and at the end of a quarter-century of command in the largest English prison, he believes in human virtue like a youthful poet. He has lived with the felon, the forger, the *lorette*, the vagabond, the murderer; has grown familiar with vice as with his morning prayer; has looked into the darkest sepulchres of the heart, encountered day by day the bleared and swollen face of the worst criminals, without finding reason to despair of mankind. In his belief, the worst of men have still some of the angel left; the brightness may be dimmed, the purity stained, but the brightness and the purity are not altogether lost. Such a testimony from such a quarter is full of novelty as it is of interest. Dreamers, it is true, very commonly indulge in prophecies of the perfectibility of man, as German professors dream over the perfectibility of metaphysics; both classes prophesying out of "the depths of their moral consciousness," whatever that serviceable phrase may mean. But men of the world, statesmen, merchants, and divines—especially divines—take a darker, possibly a truer, view of human life. They paint mankind in blackest hues. They smile at enthusiasts, they treat human virtue as a jest or as a delusion. Any word in favour of mankind they treat as an insult to heaven. Only a few months ago all Scotland rang, and a thousand pulpits vomited vituperation against the Prime Minister because he expressed a modest doubt whether children are born into the world monsters of iniquity. What will these gentlemen say to Mr. Chesterton? The ex-governor of Cold Bath Fields Prison takes one of the little monsters at its birth, born in St. Giles's, dragged up as a thief, instructed

in all the wisdom of Newgate, living the life of the streets, the night cellar and the jail; and he claims our sympathy for the sinner after all, telling us how much of good and noble still remains in the poor creature's heart.

In dealing with a subject so peculiar as prison life, Mr. Chesterton was wise in making his treatment personal and incidental. General descriptions, however accurate, interest only a few; but stories of crime, anecdotes of criminals, may attract all readers. Some of these stories are striking. Here is a piece of romance.—

"Detection of crime and the severest visitation of justice have sometimes resulted in an extraordinary advancement of the fortunes of the delinquents. A considerable sensation had been excited in several noble families by the discovery that a favourite nurse, named Dora Fenn, was found to have been a systematic depredator. She was a stout, dark, handsome woman, apparently about thirty-five years of age, who had long been esteemed a valued nurse to ladies of distinction in their confinement, or when suffering from sickness. Not only had she been largely trusted, but held in the highest favour; and happy was that lady deemed to be, who could secure the services of Dora Fenn. A deplorable accident had prostrated the lady of a noble viscount, who was tended during her illness by the incomparable nurse. All had progressed favourably, and Fenn, no longer needed, had returned to her own home, when her ladyship's watch, and a most valuable order, set in brilliants, appertaining to his lordship, were missed. Those losses created intense consternation, for the reports of the day computed the value of the order at 600 guineas. The case was confided to the scrutiny of Mr. Goddard, of the public office, Great Marlborough Street, who subsequently became chief of a county constabulary. He was a man of very superior address, and of marked intelligence; and in the progress of the case, nothing satisfactory having been elicited, he learned that Dora Fenn had been an inmate of his lordship's house. At the proposition that her abode should be visited, acute distress was manifested by the family. She could never be suspected—she was too dear and good a creature! Goddard, however, insisted, and, armed with the necessary warrant, he repaired to her house, accompanied by his lordship, who benignantly desired to soften the seeming affront. When Fenn appeared, many kind apologies were offered, and the sad necessity blandly explained; but no sooner had the nature of the visit transpired, than the countenance of the woman, and her insolent refusal to permit a search, convinced Goddard of the soundness of the step he had counseled. Proceeding, in spite of opposition, to execute his mission, he discovered the watch and appendages, but the order was not to be found. The apprehension of Fenn of course ensued, and, after an introductory examination, she was remanded to my custody. There, overwhelmed with despair at the exposure of her treachery, she was largely visited by members of the aristocracy, who now began to account for the mysterious disappearance of various valuables from their own residences while the petted nurse was there. A committal to Newgate, trial, conviction, and a sentence to death ensued, but still the order, so much prized, was not forthcoming. At that period, the execution of the highest penalty of the law was by no means unusual, and Dora Fenn's life was far from safe. In that emergency, the late Mr. Wontner, then governor of Newgate, exercised a tact and judgment which were crowned with success. Summoning Fenn to his office, he told her to listen to him, and profit by his advice. Her life, he assured her, was in danger, but the restoration of the missing order (which she, undoubtedly, had stolen) might save it. He furnished her with paper, pen, and ink, and said—'Write to whomsoever you please;—your letter shall not be read; but direct that the order be enclosed to me in a parcel forthwith, and we will see if we cannot preserve your life.' These particulars I learned from Mr. Wontner himself, and, moreover, the following day the order was in his hands. Dora Fenn was transported for life, and became acquainted with, in Australia, and married, a man of enormous wealth, who, as a convict, had been assigned to that colony for life."

A criminal of another kind will be remembered by a few readers of police reports.—

The individual in question was known by the name of Capt. Ashe. He was a man of high stature, possessed a military carriage, was well educated, and could assume the most winning manners. He was about fifty years of age. His daughters, most elegant young women, who visited him once during his imprisonment, so sorrowfully described to me the fatal errors of his life, that there was no doubt he had forsaken the path of honour, in which he was gifted to shine, under the vain hope of advancing his interests by chicanery and inventive rascality. He owed his imprisonment to the following circumstances. Capt. Ashe had written, what purported to be, the Life of H.R.H. the Duke of Cumberland, and so soon as he had completed the MS., he opened a correspondence with the duke upon the subject. He informed H.R.H. of the completed publication, affected to deplore the poverty which impelled him to the task, professed to repudiate any ill will towards the duke, and concluded by offering to suppress the work altogether upon condition that H.R.H. should pay him £1,000. Moreover, he simulated great regard for candour and fidelity, and averred that the incidents had all been collated from the most authentic sources, and such as the public would not fail to accept as trustworthy. In such an emergency, the Duke of Cumberland displayed considerable tact and ingenuity. He became aware that he had to deal with a scoundrel and a libeller, and he proved more than a match for his wily traducer. In his reply, H.R.H. expressed his regret that a measure so hostile to his peace should be contemplated, and evinced a desire to arrest the publication of a work calculated to inflame the public mind against him. Still, he deemed it only just, before he sacrificed so large a sum as £1,000, that he should have the opportunity to peruse the MS., and thus be in a situation to judge how far he might be disposed to go to insure its suppression. Capt. Ashe allowed himself to be caught in the trap thus set for him, and, with a simplicity scarcely to be looked for in a designing trickster, forwarded the MS. to the Duke. H.R.H. lost no time in perusing it, and found it, as he declared to me, a tissue of the most scandalous falsehoods and malignant inventions; and, under proper legal advice, he resolved to retain the libel in his own possession. When Capt. Ashe wrote to demand the restitution of his MS., or the immediate payment of the £1,000, he was informed that the Duke would neither restore the MS. nor pay the money, and that H.R.H. referred him to an action of trover, as the sole medium through which the work would be restored. Thereupon, Capt. Ashe became furious, and wrote to declare that, unless the MS. should be forthwith returned, he would waylay the Duke of Cumberland, and shoot him through the head. A warrant was instantly procured; Capt. Ashe was apprehended and conveyed to Bow Street, and after a formal recital of the preceding facts, Capt. Ashe was committed to my custody, in default of finding bail to keep the peace for the period of six months."

Some of the more curious experiences of the jail governor relate to the occasional meeting with a friend behind the prison bars. "It was not," says Mr. Chesterton, "an uncommon thing for men of my acquaintance jocularly to implore my clemency in the event of their being forcibly compelled to become my guests; and, with the smiles which such *bardinage* has created, I have been constrained, by experience, to admonish many, that such a contingency was not altogether impossible." Two or three such instances are related. For example:—

"While on a visit in the county of Suffolk, A. R.—at that time an engaging youth, and general favourite—had been my fellow-guest; and, subsequently, at an age not exceeding twenty years, he occupied a genteel situation in an office in London, and was remarkable for polished address, and gentleman-like deportment. A frequent visitor at my house, he acquired more and more the regard of all who met him; when, in an evil hour, he was introduced by a young acquaintance into one of the 'hells' of London, and promptly became imbued with the ruinous infatuation of play. I had been, from time to time, astonished at his prolonged

absence from my house, but was quite ignorant of the fatal change in his pursuits; when, one day, six or seven persons captured in a notorious gaming-house, entered the prison, under various sentences, and amongst them I was shocked to see A. R. He had incurred the penalty of six months' imprisonment with hard labour. His countenance had undergone a transformation; the ingenuous sweetness of his address and demeanour had vanished, and there was a boldness and harshness in his traits indicative of a corrupted disposition. He rather arrogantly claimed my interposition in his behalf, became unruly, and even insolent, and at length quitted the prison only to resume the post of *employé* in another such place of discreditable resort as the one in which he had been often surprised. I afterwards learned that, while on a casual visit to a relative, a momentary absence enabled him to purloin and decamp with a watch; and I last heard of him as a driver of an omnibus. Such are the ruinous consequences of an all-absorbing passion."

Another instance is curious, and will, we dare say, furnish the conventicle with a precious instance of the depravity of the heart.—

"Amongst the visitors at my house, at the period I am recording, was a well-known and popular vocalist, who, in the plenitude of his good nature, would give me an occasional lesson in singing. Entering my room, one day, he handed me a ballad, published in a very neat form, and said—'There is a sweet little song, composed by a friend of mine; practise it, and let me hear you sing it well, in a week's time.' The ballad contained the name of the composer, and was a tasteful and expressive piece of music. Before, however, I had the opportunity to afford my instructor any rehearsal of it, the composer was consigned to my custody. The impoverishment resulting from play had driven the young man into the usual shifts to procure money, until, at length, he had resorted to the disgraceful expedient of ordering goods from retail tradesmen, on credit, and converting such purchases into cash. For a fraudulent transaction of that nature he had been indicted at the Middlesex Sessions, and, a conviction ensuing, he received the sentence of three months' imprisonment with hard labour. Persons of his stamp, when committed to prison, were either submissive and tractable, or irritable and turbulent. My present subject was of the latter character, and I was almost worried into extremities with him. However, about a fortnight before his discharge, he suddenly relented, expressed much contrition for his insubordination, and thanked me in earnest terms for my forbearance. In that frame of mind he regained his liberty, and displayed so altered a disposition, that his respectable brothers (one of whom was a clergyman) attributed his reformation to our salutary discipline, and expressed themselves to that effect to a friend of mine. On regaining his freedom he became sedate and studious, and by some means procured such an introduction to the bishop of a diocese (revealed to me), that his lordship consented to ordain him. While this prospect awaited my subject, the bishop received an anonymous letter, whereby he was made acquainted with the crime his *protégé* had committed, and its consequent penalty; and, thereupon, the bishop sent for the culprit, and without any introductory remark, put the letter into his hand, and desired him to read it. During the perusal, the bishop fixed his eyes intently on the reader, whose countenance betrayed considerable emotion, and sufficiently revealed the truth of the allegation. However, he did not attempt to deny the charge, but at once made a frank confession of his guilt, and accompanied the avowal with such an expression of shame and contrition, that his lordship eulogized his ingenuous candour, and declared himself so satisfied with the redeeming qualities that interview had disclosed, that he resolved not to withdraw his countenance, but to fulfil the promise to ordain him. In due time my *ci-devant* prisoner was admitted into holy orders, and his after course, in that sacred capacity, was made known to me by a gentleman who, during his incarceration, had communicated with me on behalf of his family. It was rarely possible to meet with a young man, of twenty-four years of age, who possessed a more handsome countenance, or who was distinguished by manners

more prepossessing and refined. Well educated, and endowed with rare musical abilities, he was the most fitting man to grace a drawing-room, and to ingratiate himself with the fairer sex. He abused his position as a clergyman, and became ultimately shunned for the licentiousness that stamped his character. In time he was excluded from all society, as a dangerous libertine, and, under that ban, he emigrated. In this extremity, fortune did not forsake him, for he casually met with, and at length married, a young widow, who had some hundreds a year."

Nothing is so distressing in the annals of criminal justice as the conviction of the innocent. Mr. Chesterton has a chapter on false pleas of innocence,—of course a common trick of the profligate, which the experience of public officers generally allows them to discover with little effort. But occasionally circumstances may combine to offer overwhelming evidence against a person truly innocent. The following story is one of this class:—

"When I affirm that C. M. was really beautiful, I deal in exaggeration; for the judge who tried her—the late Common-Sergeant Mirehouse—quite scandalized her prosecutrix, and some lady friends who accompanied her to the court, by the apology he addressed to the jury for not transporting the trembling girl at the bar—'Gentlemen, we cannot afford to send such beauty from the country.' Her sentence, consequently, became imprisonment, with hard labour, for one year. C. M. was in the service of Mrs. N., as lady's maid to her daughter, who was at that time receiving the addresses of Captain J., of the R.N. Miss N. testified her regard for her lover, by working or decorating cambric handkerchiefs, and other such light presents, which she most injudiciously transmitted, with occasional *billet doux*, by the hands of her pretty maid, who on such occasions carried them to the captain's lodgings. In time, the captain appears to have overstepped the bounds of prudence and propriety, and most reprehensibly to have cultivated such terms with his charming messenger as to lead him to present, and her to accept, a few of the small offerings which Miss N. had designed for him alone. C. M. always emphatically insisted upon the perfect innocence of her little flirtation with Captain J., but there is quite sufficient in its outward aspect to justify reproach. However, pending his engagement with Miss N., Captain J. accepted the command of a frigate, and sailed to the coast of North America. He had not been long away, when, on some luckless occasion, Miss N., in the absence of her maid, went to the room of the latter in search of something hastily required, and, not finding what she sought, raised the lid of a box belonging to C. M., and, to her dismay, beheld, in the possession of her maid, several of the pretty presents, worked by her own fair fingers for her lover. She ran to her mother with indignant haste, imparted to her the startling fact; and not a little aroused the fierce anger of that matron. Retribution was instantly decided upon, a police constable was called in, and, on her return, C. M. was handed over to him to undergo all the preliminary forms of law, and in due course to be arraigned at the bar of criminal justice. All this was accomplished, and the wretched girl—who could only plead in her defence, the free gift of Captain J., without a scintilla of proof to justify her assertion—was, as I have shown, convicted, sentenced, and immured, without a voice being raised in her behalf. There was a modest suavity in her deportment, which disposed every one in her favour, and although she spoke to me in fervid terms of her innocence, yet that plea, so incessantly made, and so little to be relied upon, met with no greater credence from her. We treated C. M. with gentle forbearance and unceasing kindness, and she repaid us by exemplary behaviour and unreared industry. Through some channel, the fate of the poor girl reached the ears of Captain J., absent and on duty in America; and in the agony of his remorse, he wrote to an aged baronet, Sir F. O., implored of him to see her redressed, and fully confirmed the truth of her averment. In that letter, which was brought to me by the baronet, Captain J. used every expressive term to denote his grief and self-reproach, and affirmed that he could not rest day or night from

dwelling on the wrongs of that unhappy girl. The baronet, however, was one of those unimpassioned old gentlemen, who could not comprehend the Captain's anguish; he, therefore, assumed a jocular tone, and expressed himself very drily, and as he doubtless imagined, sagely, on the casual relation between a gentleman and a pretty girl. He saw C. M., coldly asked her a few unmeaning questions, and departed, murmuring aphorisms, which resolved themselves into very common-place philosophy. Indeed, I regarded his careless demeanour, under such circumstances, as neither delicate nor generous. The declaration of the girl herself, supported now by the testimony of Captain J., necessarily wrought a strong impression upon my mind, and I began to regard her with deep sympathy. Still, nothing could be effected in her behalf, since in cases of conviction founded upon sworn evidence, mere epistolary explanations could avail little. Thus, months rolled on, and the poor girl's fulfilment of her sentence seemed inevitable. Again, however, did Captain J. strive to interest a friend in her behalf, and Captain K. (who happened to be also a personal friend of my own), brought me a letter to peruse, couched in terms more strongly descriptive of the agony with which he reflected on the girl's unmerited fate. A consultation, however, between Captain K. and myself resulted in the conviction that we were powerless to serve her. In process of time, the term of sentence lapsed, and C. M. was discharged with such assistance as lay within the compass of the funds at our disposal, but still, such aid was necessarily limited. Not many days after her discharge, I was informed that a lady desired to see me, and a person entered the office so deeply veiled that it was impossible to discern her features. The stranger, however, upraised her veil, and there stood C. M. genteelly attired, her hair disposed in ringlets, and her fine features seen to an advantage which the prison costume had little favoured. With tears she besought my advice and assistance, described her lack of friends, relatives, or pecuniary resources, and avowed her anxious desire to be saved from the ruin that seemed to menace her. Moved by her earnest solicitation, I recommended her to fly for counsel and assistance to a Samaritan lady, whom she had known as prison visitor. I furnished her with the address, to which she forthwith repaired, and finding there a willing ear and Christian sympathy, C. M. entered an asylum exactly suited to her condition, under the auspices of that kind patroness, from whence she was soon transferred to a family, to whose members the history of her severe afflictions had been confided. The last accounts of her, were all that could be wished; most creditable to her character, and hopeful as to her future welfare. Whether Captain J. was ever able to indemnify her for the sufferings which his thoughtless levity had entailed upon her, I could never learn, although I casually heard, that the incidents of that catastrophe severed his engagement with Miss N. Here, at least, was one case of genuine innocence, out of the many thousands falsely alleged."

As a curious bit of human history these volumes are remarkable. They are very real, very simple; dramatic without exaggeration—philosophic without being dull.

Diary of Travels in Three Quarters of the Globe.
By an Australian Settler. 2 vols. Saunders & Odey.

THE diarist travelled from, not to, a settlement on the Clarence River, in Australia, and visited Ceylon, Egypt, Syria, Constantinople, the Crimea, the Mediterranean Islands, and Italy. In a plain and intelligent narrative, he describes what was seen and what happened in the course of this circuitous journey. It is long since we looked for point or novelty in Cinghalese, Egyptian, Italian,—may we not add Crimean?—jottings. So that the tourist be moderately enthusiastic, and not immoderately egotistical, so that he have few theories, and bear not with him the blight of “a facetious turn,” he may be readable, even entertaining,—more it is not in the nature of metropolitan

critics to expect. The “Australian Settler” happens to possess a peculiar aptitude for slighting Brydone and Eustace, Wilkinson and Lepsius; and, sketching as he rides or floats only the passing aspects of his “three quarters of the globe,” succeeds in being lively without being humorous, and sensible without being dull. It is only in the Crimea and at Scutari that he assumes a polemical tone, and there it is only to make affidavit and say that the hospitals were wretched, and that in the cavalry camps he saw the horses trembling and shivering in the open air.

One of the Settler's last glimpses of Australia was in a secluded locality between the Torrens River and King George's Sound. There he saw a group of aboriginal children, rambling among the rocks and gathering flowers. They were all neatly dressed and polite in manner, and had received a rudimentary education. Their parents, uncouth but quiet blacks, frequently visited them, and evinced great pride in their acquirements. This note may be of interest to those who discredit the axiom of writers, old and new, who maintain that the native Australian race is irreclaimable, and necessarily doomed to extinction.

In Ceylon the planters have discovered a natural alarm, which they apply to preserve their cocoa-palms from depredation.—

“We observed many of the trees that were in bearing encased for some distance above the ground, with three or four of their own huge leaves dried and secured upon the trunk like gigantic sprawling centipedes. This we found, upon inquiry, is a contrivance to prevent plunderers from climbing the trees during the night, which, if attempted, produces a loud crackling amongst these dried leaves, and thus warns the owner.”

The precaution is of importance, considering that in Ceylon the cocoa-nut trees are so valuable that ten will supply a man with a livelihood, while two hundred will enable him to keep his carriage.

Fresh from the sombre monotony of the Australian bush, the Settler turned nomad, and examined with curiosity the variegated landscapes of Ceylon—the Plutonic blackness of Aden—the tinted coasts of the Red Sea—the tawny sands of Egypt, with gardens in bright contrast on the edge of the Desert. Pyramids, dances, coffee-house gossip, donkey and camel rides, filled up his few Egyptian days, besides a visit to the Viceroy's new palace,—as rich as Aladdin's vision, with floors of artificial jewelry.

The sketches at the seat of war are somewhat commonplace in matter and manner. Those in Italy—where every grain of the dust may have been shaken off some traveller's shoes—are, notwithstanding, tasteful and pleasant, and, by the Australian public, will be prized as the tracings of an Australian pen. Within the Grotta Azzura, the diarist says:—

“The appearance is surprising and beautiful beyond description. The water upon which you float, the roof and sides of the Grotto, the boats, and all objects within this singular cave appear tinged with a deep azure blue. Several other boats were in the Grotto at the same time with ours, and the agitation of the water caused by the dip of their oars, produced a changing variety of shades, from deep violet to light silvery blue, that had a most charming effect. With half a piastre we bribed a boy to jump overboard; and as he swam and dived about in the cave he appeared like some bright-coloured sea-monster, an aquatic impersonation of blue devils.”

On the slopes of Vesuvius he saw the King of Naples, in a carriage, drawn by an artillery team, presiding over a volcanic eruption. What follows is picturesque:—

“Crowds of people from the neighbouring villages, principally women and children, were assembled, watching the progress of the enemy, which, however, was so slow, that numerous vendors of oranges and

iced water had established their stalls but fifty or sixty yards before the advancing mass. Parties of men were employed in the neighbourhood of the lava, cutting and carrying away every tree and stick that could be of value; and a little further on we saw a poor woman sitting upon the ground in the little garden-plot, her only property, and bitterly weeping at the prospect of coming ruin. Slow as is the progress of the lava, those fine apricots and almond trees and that little spot of earth—to her more dear than all the wide world besides—must be overwhelmed and destroyed before to-morrow's sun goes down. Poor woman, how strange to her must sound the laughter and mirth of the neighbouring crowd of noisy spectators!”

In Rome, in Florence, in Milan, in Venice, the “Settler” gossips, if not in an original, at least in an agreeable, strain.

A Journey in the Seaboard Slave States. With Remarks on their Economy. By Frederick Law Olmsted. New York, Dix & Edwards; London, Low & Co.

WHEN Graculo, the slave, is in very imminent danger of hanging—at the close of ‘The Bondman’—he reasonably expresses a wish to Timoleon that he may not be “executed twice.”—“Twice!” exclaims the General, “how meanest thou?” To which Graculo replies—

At the gallows first; and after, in a ballad Sung to some villainous tune. There are ten-grain rhymers About the town grow fat on these occasions. Let but a chapel fall, or a street be fired, A foolish lover hang himself for pure love, Or any such-like accident; and before They are cold in their graves, some damn'd ditty's made Which makes their ghosts walk.—Let the state take order For the redress of this abuse.

Now, something like what this slave of Syracuse said to the doughty Corinthian General, the coloured bondsmen of America may remark to American travellers who cross the slave states, “taking notes.” They may fairly claim not to be executed twice,—to be detained in slavery, and rendered ridiculous in print.

Mr. Olmsted's book is well intentioned, but it does that which so highly offended Graculo,—it makes the slave ridiculous, by tedious details of silly and childish verbiage uttered by coloured men with whom this—otherwise intelligent—traveller came in contact. Indeed, its chief fault is prolixity. In his seven hundred pages the writer communicates many things worth knowing; but he might have told us twice as much in half the space. He is the most determined button-holder we have encountered for a long period.

Under such guidance, however, we are sometimes led, sometimes dragged, through Virginia, Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and Louisiana. The incidents of Negro-life are many, but the real value of the book lies in something beyond these,—namely, in the evidences that a time is approaching when it will be to the advantage of the Southern States to abolish that peculiar institution which, with tender regard for the sentiment of freedom, is not named, or not called by its name, in the Constitution of the United States, and adopt free labour. The evidence on this point is irresistible.

It may be observed, too, that the “niggers” are not the only slaves in the States. The magistrates themselves are sometimes slaves to very hard task-masters. We have proof of this in the section treating of the Negroes of Washington. We are told that they voluntarily sustain several churches, schools, charitable and self-improvement societies. Twenty-four “gentle coloured men” were one night fallen in upon by a watchman. They were associated for excellent purposes, but as there was not a white man present, the watchman took the whole party into custody. “The law,” says Mr. Olmsted, “requires that a white man shall

always be present at any meeting, for religious exercises, of the Negroes, to destroy the opportunity of their conspiring to gain their freedom." The two dozen "gentle coloured men" were accordingly "surrounded,"—we suppose by the watchman,—and, in due time, brought before the magistrate.—

"On searching their persons, there were found a Bible, a volume of 'Seneca's Morals'; 'Life in Earnest'; the printed Constitution of a Society, the object of which was said to be 'to relieve the sick, and bury the dead'; and a subscription paper to purchase the freedom of *Eliza Howard*, a young woman, whom her owner was willing to sell at 650 dollars. * * Washington is, at this time, governed by the Know Nothings, and the magistrate, in disposing of the case, was probably actuated by a well-founded dread of secret conspiracies, inquisitions, and persecutions. One of the prisoners, a slave named Joseph Jones, he ordered to be flogged; four others, called in the papers free men, and named John E. Bennett, Chester Taylor, George Lee, and Aquilar Barton, were sent to the Workhouse, and the remainder, on paying costs of court, and fines, amounting, in the aggregate, to 111 dollars, were permitted to range loose again."

It has often been said that there is no really independent executive power in the United States; and this book, by an American, would seem to confirm the assertion. But among the legislators themselves there are some singular characters. Here is what Mr. Olmsted calls "one of the Law-givers."—

"While on the bridge at Richmond, the car in which I was seated was over-full—several persons standing; among them, one considerably 'excited,' who informed the company that he was a Member of the House of Delegates, and that he would take advantage of this opportune collection of the people, to expose an atrocious attempt, on the part of the minority, to jump a Bill through the Legislature, which was not in accordance with true Democratic principles. He continued for some time to address them in most violent, absurd, profane, and meaningless language; the main point of his oration being, to demand the popular gratitude for himself, for having had the sagacity and courage to prevent the accomplishment of the nefarious design. He afterwards attempted to pass into the ladies' car, but was dissuaded from doing so by the conductor, who prevailed on a young man to give him his seat. Having taken it, he immediately lifted his feet upon the back of the seat before him, resting them upon the shoulders of its occupant. This gentleman turning his head, he begged his pardon; but, hoping it would not occasion him inconvenience, he said he would prefer to keep them there, and did so; soon afterwards falling asleep."

We will refrain from citing any of the common incidents of slave-life, as depicted in this volume. They are numerous and varied, but they introduce us to no new aspects of the life in question, nor tell anything that differs materially from what has often been told before. We prefer turning to a subject on which some few among us who cry out most lustily against the iniquity of slavery, require to be instructed. The institution of "bondage-labour" was not only introduced from England, but the first slaves were Englishmen. The Dutch have the glory of having introduced the Negro slave. The following extract refers to the colony of Virginia.—

"The Colony still languishing, though things much improved under Sir Thomas Dale, in 1618 the company petitioned the Crown to make them a present of 'vagabonds and condemned men,' to be sent out as slaves; and the King, thankful, probably, to get rid of the burden of taking care of these men, who had been too lazy heretofore to take care of themselves in any other way than by pilfering and knavery, was graciously pleased to grant their request. The following year a hundred head of this valuable stock was driven out of Bridewell and other London knave-pens, on board ship, and exported to Virginia. The next year, twenty head of black men, direct

from Africa, were landed from a Dutch ship, in James River, and were immediately bought by the gentlemen of the Colony. These were the first negro slaves in the country at present included in the United States. The same year the first cheerful labour by the voluntary immigrants to New England, by the May-Flower, was applied to the sterile soil of Massachusetts Bay."

England may be proud of the living freight which left her shores in the Mayflower, but she has no grounds for reproving the American on the subject of an "institution" from which she did not free herself till recently; and then, to effect a great good indeed, she was also guilty of inflicting much wrong.—

"It was not criminals alone that were sent into this bondage, but captives of war, of all nations, and State prisoners, victims of the Star Chamber and of the Ecclesiastical Courts; persons suspected of traitorous designs upon the monarchy, and infidels to the Court theology; all were herded together with petty pilferers, convicted murderers, and heathen blackamoors, and driven by overseers to work in the tobacco fields of their cavalier purchasers. Charles II. ordered a shipment of Quakers to Virginia, where they were sold as slaves, for dissenting from his true church. Their non-resistance principles must have added much to their value."

When Virginia was a colonial province, the term "servant" was applied to men and women bound to labour for a certain time. Labourers for life alone were called slaves. Having accepted our fair share of the reproach which attaches to us for introducing white slavery into America, let us notice, to our own credit, that English law, at least, is not to be blamed for the practice noticed in the following paragraph.—

"In 1662, forty-two years after the first importation of negroes, there being already many mulatto children, the paternity of which it would be disagreeable to inquire about, owing to the laws against libertinism, it was enacted, in direct contradiction to the supreme English law, that the children of slaves should follow the condition of the mother, and not ever of the father. This law, which has been maintained to the present time, of course offers a direct encouragement to the most mischievous licentiousness. In the French, Dutch, Danish, German, Spanish, and Portuguese colonies, the white fathers of coloured children have always been accustomed to educate and emancipate them, and endow them with property. In Virginia, and the English colonies generally, the white fathers of mulatto children have always been accustomed to use them in a way that most completely destroys the oft-complacently asserted claim, that the Anglo-Saxon race is possessed of deeper natural affection than the more demonstrative sort of mankind."

The Southern States, with all the once supposed advantages of compulsory labour, are said to be fast dropping astern of the Northern States in commercial and general prosperity. It may be that German and Irish labourers will ultimately supersede the negro slaves, but free labourers themselves are not the most easy people to deal with. Of some of the immigrant labourers who were nearly starved to death in the famine of 1855, the author thus speaks.—

"Most of those who received assistance would have thrown a slave's ordinary allowance in the face of the giver, as an insult; and this often occurred with more palatable and suitable provisions. Hundreds and hundreds, to my personal knowledge, during the worst of this dreadful season, refused to work for money-wages that would have purchased them ten times the slave's allowance of the slave's food. In repeated instances, men who represented themselves to be suffering for food refused to work for a dollar a day. A labourer, employed by a neighbour of mine, on wages and board, refused to work unless he was better fed. 'What's the matter?' said my neighbour, 'don't you have enough?'—'Enough; yes, such as it is.'—'You have good meat, good bread, and a variety of vegetables; what do you want else?'—'Why, I want pies and puddings, too, to be sure.' Another labourer left another neighbour of mine, because he never had any meat offered

him, except beef and pork; he 'didn't see why he shouldn't have chickens.'"

This may be less of an exaggeration than, at first sight, it would seem to be. There was once a very prevalent idea among English rustics that gold was to be picked up in London streets for the mere trouble of stooping for it.

The following may serve as a sort of appendix to 'Evangeline,'—but it will probably disappoint the lovers of the record of those fugitives, who wandered

From the black shores of the sea to the land where the Father of Waters Seizes the hills in his hand and drags them down to the ocean.

—The locality is Louisiana.—

"At one corner of Mr. R.'s plantation, there was a hamlet of Acadians (descendants of the refugees of Acadia), about a dozen small houses or huts, built of wood or clay, in the old French peasant style. The residents owned small farms, on which they raised a little corn and rice; but Mr. R. described them as lazy vagabonds, doing but little work, and spending much time in shooting, fishing and play. He wanted very much to buy all their land, and get them to move away. He had already bought out some of them, and had made arrangements to get hold of the land of some of the rest. He was willing to pay them two or three times as much as their property was actually worth, to get them to move off. As fast as he got possession, he destroyed their houses and gardens, removed their fences and trees, and brought all their land into his cane plantation."

We cannot congratulate the author on having written a brilliant book, but we can praise the good intentions which have resulted in a useful one. It would have been more amusing as well as more edifying had the author been less diffuse.

Memoirs of the Life and Writings of Ralph Wardlaw, D.D. By William Lindsay Alexander, D.D. Edinburgh, Black.

The world has a right to complain, when the biographies of sincere and energetic men, who have influenced many during life-time, are made unreadable. We fancied no Biography of such a one could be written by any survivor whose meanings are good, which should not contain some matter to interest the general reader, as well as the student whose theological convictions coincide with those expounded and illustrated. The dismal dryness of the biographies of such veteran divines as Jay, Pye Smith, and now the Glasgow clergyman, has compelled us to narrow the circle of expectation, and to own that when a Churchman is eulogizing or anatomizing a Churchman, he is too apt to swamp the humanity of his subject in a mass of dogmatic dissertation, and to regard him, not as a being who loved, and talked, and wrought among men, but as a mere preaching machine, to be laid open, that every spring, and pivot, and wheel may be subjected to test. The mischief done to the world beyond the confines of the favoured sect by such exclusiveness is entirely overlooked; and as belonging to the company of those who are wronged, we are bound on their behalf to protest, that a heavier book than Dr. Alexander's has rarely repelled the advances of patient readers. But it was probably not intended either to court general perusal, or to content those whose function it is to adventure through every narrative that appears, whether it lead them through pastures flowing with milk and honey, or through a parched wilderness.

The reader may be reminded that Dr. Wardlaw was for fifty years occupied in ministering to one congregation in Glasgow; that he was a preacher of celebrity, and took a busy (and, it would seem, not an unwilling) part in many religious controversies. This occupation, painful and profitless as it

may seem to lookers-on, is, we imagine, one of the exercises in which a Scottish clergyman, holding Dr. Wardlaw's particular opinions, is expected to partake, in order to satisfy his congregation. The old Scottish Ladies, from Jenny Geddes downwards, have been used to consider that to "knock doctrine" was a privilege and a duty, and that to criticize their spiritual guide was of as much vital consequence as to be taught by him. One of the very few anecdotes contained in this heavy volume will illustrate the pitfalls through which the minister had to walk ere he was allowed to possess himself of the pulpit as "one having authority."

"Mr. Wardlaw was on a tour through the north of Scotland, and was by no means strictly clerical in his costume, but wore topped boots and other articles of dress corresponding to the necessities of a journey on horseback. This circumstance, added to the remarkably elegant appearance of the preacher, rather stumbled the faith of Mrs. M.—, one of the old school. She looked wonders, as she saw the young minister ascend the pulpit stairs; but as he entered on his subject, she was seen to become most grave and attentive. When he had finished his discourse, she looked round to Mrs. S.—, a person of an exceedingly different cast of mind, and exclaimed, 'O woman! was na' that a great sermon for sic a young man? But, O he's o'er brav and o'er bonny!' 'O'er brav!' replied Mrs. S.—, 'that signifies a man's clae, if there be plenty of furniture in's mind? And to find fau't with the dear young man because he's bonny, is something very much like a reflection on the Creator himself!'

It may, therefore, have been the constraint inevitable to the Preacher's position, an acquiescence in the restless desires of others, that caused Dr. Wardlaw to spend so much of his energy in controversial divinity:—for, as a man, he seems to have been genial, amiable, and accomplished in his own family circle,—and, in private intercourse, anxious rather to approach and to ascertain the points of agreement which are common to pious men, than to fret concerning the points of difference which man's private judgment will continue to assail or defend—

Till sun and moon shall shine no more.

This, again, we think, can be illustrated from almost the only personal sketch and anecdote which the copious extracts from Dr. Wardlaw's Correspondence afford us.—

"Writing to his brother-in-law Mr. Smith, he says, (April 9, 1812):—'Since coming home a considerable portion of my time has been occupied about the Lancastrian Schools, which there is every prospect now of our soon getting reduced into *first-rate order*. We have had Joseph himself here; our committee met with him for near two hours and a half on Monday; after which a number of us dined and spent the evening with him in Mr. Sword's, partly in general conversation, and partly on *business*. Along with Mr. Owen and myself he had previously in the forenoon visited all the three schools here; and he and I had mutually explained, shaken hands, and got quite great together. Indeed, with all his failings, of which the chief is vanity—vanity natural to him, and cherished by the singular success and large measure of adulation he has met with—I should not like to be on bad terms with a man who has been beyond question the honoured instrument of so much real and extensive good to individuals and to the community. I like him vastly better than I expected in private; although, no doubt, he is loquaciously communicative, he is yet vastly good-humoured with it, and withal one of the most delightfully amusing specimens of happy self-complacency I could ever wish to see. On his own subjects, and topics connected with them—which of course were the burden of the song—he is very shrewd and sensible, sometimes waggish, but not always with equal success. He lectures to parents, &c. in our Calton School Room on Friday evening, in our Theatre here on Tuesday, and on Wednesday is invited by our committee to a *public dinner*, of which I have this morning inserted the advertisement in the papers.'

Dr. Wardlaw was the father of many children,—several of whom devoted themselves to missionary service; and his letters to them display much affectionate confidence. The same talent for versifying, which he put to sacerdotal use, by writing grave and sonorous hymns, (in no respect the worst which the Scottish Hymn-book contains,) was exercised for the diversion of his children in the making of conundrums. One of his last offices and pleasures in life was the introduction to "the serious world in Glasgow" of Mrs. Stowe. He died in December 1853,—having been born in the year 1779,—and leaving a name which will last in the roll of the Calvinist Ministers of North Britain.

Caravan Journeys and Wanderings in Persia, Afghanistan, Turkistan, and Beloochistan; with Historical Notices of the Countries lying between Russia and India. By J. P. Ferrier. Translated from the Original Unpublished Manuscript by Capt. W. Jesse. Edited by H. D. Seymour, M.P. With Original Map and Woodcuts. Murray.

ACCORDING to prefatory details, furnished by the accomplished editor of this large volume of travels and adventure, the author, a scion of a respectable French family, enlisted as a private soldier, and rose to the rank of "maréchal de logis." From Africa, the scene of his first services, he proceeded to Persia. Other French officers were in his company, and their mission was to drill and discipline the army of the Shah,—the English detachment of officers, previously engaged in the same vocation, having left the country in 1839, when our differences with the Shah led to a suspension of diplomatic relations. In the service of the Oriental sovereign M. Ferrier spent several years, and his merits were acknowledged by his elevation to the honorary rank of adjutant-general of the Persian army.

M. Ferrier was opposed to Russian interests in Persia, and he attributes his removal from his post to the effect of Russian intrigues. He repaired to France to solicit government aid in his behalf, but M. Guizot had no mind to meddle in the matter,—and M. Ferrier, weary of doing nothing, set out in 1845 to seek new fortune in Lahore. He proceeded thither through Persia and Afghanistan, and this volume contains the record of his travels. Mr. Seymour justly describes the more important portion of the record as commencing with the author's arrival in the territories of the unprincipled but skilful Yar Mohamed. The editor truly says, that "there is probably no part of the world, not excepting the interior of Africa, which is so dangerous and inaccessible to the European traveller as Afghanistan and the countries of Central Asia." M. Ferrier failed to reach Lahore, after leaving Herat, by Balkh and Cabul. He then struck "through the Hazarah country to the west, by a route which no Afghan dare travel, and where no European had hitherto set foot, till he nearly reached the ancient town of Gour. Here he was again stopped, and sent back to Herat." After necessary repose, the undaunted traveller set out, with the object of reaching India, through southern Afghanistan, by Girishk and Candahar. The narrative of the journey includes some exciting details touching the country of Seistan, the wild Beloochees, and "the grand river Helmund." The traits of native character, described by the way, are "such as could only be obtained by one who travelled alone, and like a native himself." Mr. Seymour sagaciously discerns the growing importance of these countries of Central Asia to commercial England. Russia and Great Britain

may be rivals in conveying thither the manufactures of civilized nations. The future advantages will be on our side, for we shall have easier access by water, port, and rail than Russia can have. But the Czar may profit largely, nevertheless, if he be content to derive all the benefit possible from his own route, without coveting, or attempting to impede, our own.

Mr. Seymour saw M. Ferrier at Teheran, in 1846, on the return of the latter from his dangerous adventures. About two years ago, the two travellers met again at Pondicherry. Here they went over the manuscripts of the French officer, the narrative part of which is now presented to the public. A History of the Afghans and an account of the Traditions of the Country will follow,—if the public fittingly encourage this first attempt. Concerning this first portion, we should add that it has been revised by Sir Henry Rawlinson, and the part referring to Herat has been "looked over" by Sir John Login, the guardian of the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh. "These competent witnesses," says Mr. Seymour, "declare M. Ferrier's work to be, in their opinion, most accurate and faithful." Sir Roderick Murchison, too, has pronounced the work to be "a valuable addition to our knowledge of the important countries of which it treats." Having thus furnished a history of a book which, although containing views to which some may object, possesses merits which no one will deny, we will now proceed to furnish a taste of its quality, selecting our extracts from those portions which treat of tracts of country little known. And first of one whence we have news of some of our own unhappy countrymen whom the fortune of war, or fate not less terrible, had brought there. The scene is at Mahmoodabad. M. Ferrier solicits from the brutal Sirdar, Mohamed Sedik Khan, aid to pass onwards. The Sirdar suspects him for an Englishman, demands surrender of his notes, and then asks, "Do you know the Englishman who came last year from Persia to Kandahar?"—

"I answered in the negative. 'Well,' he said, 'then I am better informed than you are. He was an officer of rank, with green eyes and a red beard, and having been in garrison at Kandahar during the time it was in possession of the English, one of my people knew him, and we seized him, and he is now in a safe place—*der jah-i-qæm*—from which he will not escape to trouble Afghanistan again. There is another besides him, who, also an Englishman, passed by Candahar about seven months ago; may God pardon him!—*Khoda bi amuzred esh*, meaning that he was dead. All these visits of the Feringhees in our country are very extraordinary, and we mean to put a stop to them.'"

When M. Ferrier retired to his hut, where he was under guard, he says:—

"What the Sirdah told me of the two Englishmen who had been travelling in Candahar occupied my thoughts much, and the first time I was alone with the Mooshee I begged him to tell me what he knew of their history, and from him I learnt that the one first mentioned by the Sirdah had been recognized and arrested in Girishk, and then transported to the district of Zumeendawar, and confined to the keeping of the Sirdar Akhter Khan. The second, who spoke Persian perfectly, wore the costume of a Syud, and passed for such, calling himself a native of Samarcand, and replying to all questions that he was on a pilgrimage to Mecca. He was accompanied by two servants, and all three were perfectly well mounted, armed, and equipped. They had been eight days at Candahar when he was first suspected, and the Mooshee Feiz Mohamed was the person who gave him the earliest intelligence of the fact, immediately on receiving which he mounted his horse and secretly left the town. Kohendji Khan did not know of his flight till the following day, when he despatched horsemen after him in all directions; but they preserved so strict a silence on their return that no one in Kandahar ever knew whether

he had been taken or not. However that may have been, the Moonshee told me that he had acknowledged to him that he was an Englishman, and had assured him that many of his countrymen, who had formed part of the army of occupation in Kabul, had been sold into slavery in Turkistan, where, less fortunate than himself, they still dragged on a mournful existence."

Our traveller was in much perplexity upon this matter, not knowing how far the account was trustworthy. His doubts, however, were soon dispersed by the following incident, which occurred a few days after his interview with the Sirdar, when he received touching, yet still more perplexing, proof of there being an Englishman in slavery at Zumeendawer.—

"A sepoy of the governor of that district, Akhter Khan, kept hovering about my prison, but dared not approach me too closely for fear of exciting the suspicion of the guards. I had observed his manner, and also detected that he made signs to me, but I abstained from acknowledging them, fearful of compromising him. After a time a momentary opportunity presented itself for his speaking to me unobserved, and he seized it with alacrity. 'Sahib,' said he, 'I bring you news of your countryman : he has been very ill, but is better to-day. Having heard of your stay at Herat and arrival in Kandahar, he gave me this letter for you, knowing that about the time I should arrive here you also would have reached Mahmoodabad.' With these words he slipped into my hand a sheet of coarse grey paper, folded in the form of a letter, and in fact containing one, but without any address. I opened it with impatience, thinking to learn the story of the unhappy writer's sufferings, and to prepare to bear with resignation those which were probably reserved for myself; but what was my vexation, my grief, at finding that I could not read a single word ! It was written in English ! While endeavouring earnestly to make out the sense, a pichkhid-met of the Sirdar's came up, and seeing the paper in my hand, and the sepoy near me, suspected some mystery, and informed his master. Mohamed Sedik questioned me most severely, and my denials were useless ; for the unfortunate letter was found under my felt carpet. As he could read and understand a little English, he proceeded to do so, and therefore learned more or less what unhappily it could not reveal to me. Then ensued a most violent scene. He accused me of coming into Kandahar to revolutionize it, and overwhelmed me with invectives. I believed my last hour was come ; but nothing happened beyond remanding me to my prison, to be more carefully watched. The unhappy soldier was seized, bound, and bastinadoed in a fearful manner ; and though he fainted, the executioners did not leave off until his feet were reduced to a bruised and bleeding mass."

At Kandahar, M. Ferrier had a political discussion with the great chief, Kohendil Khan. Making allowance for the barbarism of the Khan, it is wonderful what excellent, right-divine ideas he had touching kingly might and right. M. Ferrier had just told him that in constitutional countries the acts of a government are subordinate to the laws,—which very much disgusted the Khan :—

"But," he replied, "what is the use of power if it is not to enable one to get rich ? What is a government without absolute power ? What is a king who cannot, when he pleases, bastinado one of his subjects and cut off his head ? It is turning the world upside down, the most terrible thing that can be seen ; it must be permanent anarchy—I know it ; I can judge by my Afghans. They are like other men, but they respect me because they fear me ; and it is by constant oppression that I succeed in inspiring this fear. If God had not inspired men with terror, by pointing out the torments with which they would be punished, would they obey the dictates of his holy book the Koran ? I think despotism, therefore, appears the best form of government for doing good ; nevertheless, if you can teach me a better, I will hasten to put it in practice."—'The system,' I said, 'was shown you by the English when they were in your country : do as they did ; regulate everything according to justice and equity, encourage commerce

and agriculture, carry out works of public utility, make your roads safe from robbers, repress the tyranny of subordinate agents, let the people know what they owe to the state, and be exempt from extortion when they have paid it ; fear not then that your country will be rich and prosperous, the population will increase instead of emigrating, and venerate the prince who shall first teach them the value of order, justice, and abundance, and their gratitude to him will be the best security for the endurance of his power.' Kohendil Khan listened, but it was plain that he thought me a short-sighted Utopian visionary, devoid of any real idea of the science of good government."

On the nature of the English rule in Afghanistan, this intelligent French traveller furnishes the following testimony, gratifying in itself as well as in coming from such a quarter :—

"What I heard and saw in Afghanistan gave me the most profound conviction that the moment the British flag is seen in an Asiatic state the shameless government in force under the native ruler is replaced, if not by abundance, certainly by security and justice. However burdensome the taxation of the English may be, it is always far less so than that extorted by Native princes, who add persecution to rapacity. I have naturally adopted these opinions from hearing of the Afghans, so hostile to the English, sigh for the loss of their administrative system. The Sirdahs, Mollahs, Syuds, and soldiers, classes who live by plundering the industrious portion of the inhabitants, were always declaiming against the English, because under them they could not practise their iniquities. The people were irritated, it is true, because their prejudices had been shocked, and rose to shake off their yoke ; but now they regret them ; and I have twenty times heard Afghans speak in terms of just appreciation of what they had done for their good."

The Afghans themselves often concluded their praises of their "unfortunate conquerors" by remarking—"What a pity they were not Mussulmans like us ; we would never have had any other masters." At Furrrah, we are told that the heat is so intense, as late as November, that by the middle of the day eggs become hard and balls of lead malleable. When the author was among the Beloochees he was taken for a Persian. The astonishment was great when he was discovered to be an European. Without a talisman from God or compact with the devil, no European had a chance of getting out of the country alive. The Khan who was his host was looked upon as possessing a "wind-fall," and for very singular reasons.—

"The Belooches have the most singular ideas of an European that can well be conceived : struck with all they have heard and seen of their power, intelligence, and riches, they think not only that they can make gold, but also that their bodies and everything belonging to or in contact with them contains the precious metal. A few years before the date at which I am writing, Ali Khan received a visit at Sheik Nassoor from an English doctor of the name of Forbes. He had been warned of the consequences which would assuredly befall him if he ventured within the clutches of this monster, but it was of no use—he was bent upon undertaking the journey, and paid the penalty of his curiosity with his life. Ali Khan murdered him in his sleep, and hung poor Forbes's body up in front of his own tent, which he ordered to be deluged with water during fifteen days consecutively. 'You will see,' he said to his people, 'that this dog of an infidel will at last be transformed into good ducats.' Finding, however, to his great amazement, that this proceeding did not produce the expected result, he thought he would boil the water with which the corpse had been washed, but with no better effect. It then occurred to him that the doctor, to play him a trick, had before his death made the gold pass from his body into the clothes and books which filled his trunks. Instead of burning these impurities, which had been his original intention, he had them cut and torn up into little bits, and mixed with the mortar destined to plaster his house. He had not yet had occasion to use it, but he informed us, as he related the details of this disgusting tragedy, that when he did he expected to see his

house covered with a layer of the precious metal. Nothing would ever have induced him to forego this belief, and he did not disguise from me that he would have been happy if he could have added my poor corpse to the mortar in question."

The Beloochees are a very rude people, at present, but as commerce, civilization, and strong beverages reach them, a change will, no doubt, come over them. Meanwhile, let us commend this excellent volume to all classes of readers. There is matter in it for a month's good reading, and a year's digestion. We state this to induce the public to buy rather than borrow a volume which is good in every respect :—well written, well translated, and well edited, pleasingly illustrated, and adorned with a map which the reader will have often to refer to, and will never refer to without satisfaction.

NEW NOVELS.

Evelyn Marston. By the Author of 'Emilia Wyndham,' &c. 3 vols. (Hurst & Blackett).—In 'Evelyn Marston' the Author of 'Emilia Wyndham' presents us with her annual novel. If we may venture on a homely comparison, we should say that she poured out in the beginning a dish of excellent tea, as good as one need wish to have ; but no teapot is a perennial spring, and whilst adding warm water without stint, she has omitted to put in fresh tea : the result is, that after growing gradually weaker and weaker what she gives us to-day is no better than "water bewitched." Anything more diffuse, wearisome, flat, and unprofitable, we have seldom met with than the novel before us. The characters are so many lay figures, which have done duty many times before in our author's novels. She does not supply new dresses and decorations, not even fresh accessories. There is the hero, who is a gentleman by birth, but placed in a false position by fortune,—the heroine, a lovely young lady, of large possessions, dressed like a Dresden china shepherdess,—her father, a hard, worldly, rich man,—the hero's father, a model of a just man struggling with adversity,—the mother, a saint, martyr, and valetudinarian, all in one. The heroine steps from her pedestal to marry the hero,—incurs poverty and hardships of all kinds in consequence —for our author is fond of making her heroes and heroines go through a course of bread and water—and hard labour ; when, nearly exhausted, they are suddenly lifted up, and restored to all the good things they have so unaccountably lost, and they are left to live happy ever after. We appeal to our readers whether this be not a rough outline of half-a-dozen of this Lady's novels ? In the present instance she creates one or two characters, describes them elaborately, and forgets to make any use of them. There is a dark, silent, awkward, mathematical cousin, who is in love with Evelyn in the beginning, but he goes off the scene until quite the end of the book, when the authoress suddenly recollects him and drags him on to do—nothing. The invalid mother, after being treated by her husband as a divinity, and filling pages after pages with her disagreeable presence, slips out of sight. We wondered what finally became of her : after some search we found the brief notice,—"Claire had died during the previous winter!" The heroine's father, after being a rich and prosperous man, is ruined all in a moment, and sent to prison for some crime which is never stated ;—he dies in the same huddled, slovenly manner, but whether in prison or not we could not make out. The restoration of the hero and heroine to prosperity is very unsatisfactory :—they are sent to the hero's ancestral châteaux and estates in France, a very few years before the great Revolution, when seigneurs, châteaux and ancestral possessions were given over to destruction. The story is altogether idle ; it shows neither care nor pains in its construction, and it might have been written in sleep. We are sorry to be thus severe ; but the Author of 'Emilia Wyndham' must confess that we have had long patience with her. *The Linesman ; or, Service in the Guards and the Line during England's long Peace and little Wars.* By Col. Elers Napier. 3 vols. (Hyde).—This

work, although thrown roughly into the form of a novel, is evidently not intended to take its place amongst works of fiction. It purports to be the history of a soldier's personal experience in the army at home and abroad, in every possible phase. The narrative form has been adopted for the sake of showing with some minuteness the working of our military system, and urging the reforms that appear to be the most needed. The author is a man evidently well acquainted with his subject in all its practical bearings. The book is written with great moderation of tone, combined with an earnestness of conviction that cannot fail to impress every reader who may take it up. It will, as a matter of course, excite discussion and provoke contradiction; but as the question stands, that is to be desired instead of deprecated. It is, however, to be regretted that for the chance of securing a small section of non-professional readers who might decline to undertake the subject in the shape of a dissertation, Col. Napier should have attempted to make his book into a novel, because writing a novel is not that branch of writing which "comes by nature," and Col. Napier transgresses all the conventionalities: he introduces scenes and incidents which are in contravention of "the three thousand punctualities;" but the story, as it stands, is only a disguise to entice general readers to ask the question of Military Reform.

Henry Lyle; or, Life and Existence. By Emilia Marryat. 2 vols. (Chapman & Hall.)—This story has been accidentally overlooked until now:—we offer our apologies for the delay, but we regret that we have nothing agreeable to say about it. We should imagine the authoress to be a young and very amiable lady, but one who writes novels much in the style of the accomplishment called "Poonah painting" or "Oriental tinting," which was fashionable years ago. She attempts to delineate the different career of a Christian and an Infidel—the Christian being a hero of the ordinary stamp, and the Infidel something between Lord Byron and the Saracen's Head—we never saw any body like him in flesh and blood. The heroine, who refuses to marry him, tries hard to convert him, but without success, and he dies very uncomfortably; the good hero also dies, but with a difference; the heroine goes mad for a little while, but recovers and lives resigned. The style is complacent and self-sufficient; but the author seems in bland unconsciousness that she has ventured into troubled waters and gone entirely out of her depth.

The Crown Ward. By Archibald Boyd. 3 vols. (Bentley.)—This story is laid in Scotland, in the reign of King James the Sixth;—it is interesting, although it cannot take rank as a first-class historical novel. There is evidence of careful reading to get up the characters, manners, costumes, and contemporary history, which are all used easily and naturally for the good of the book, not for the vanity of the author; indeed, there is a remarkable and praiseworthy absence of all pedantry and useless display. The descriptions of scenery and of the different localities are fresh and graphic. The characters are less successful—and the story lacks body and reality. It is too full of stage business and melo-dramatic arrangements,—neither is it well built up. The main action of the story is allowed to stagnate in long drawn interviews and conversations, which have no relation to the matter in hand. A mysterious stranger, disguised as an Italian jeweller, is the individual who plays the part of Providence throughout. He appears in the first scene, and keeps the stage until the last; for no other purpose, apparently, but to find out everybody's secret, and transact everybody's business—except his own, which indeed is not very clearly defined. The hero and heroine have not much to do, and are passive, albeit grateful, objects, of the mysterious Italian's good offices in their behalf. King James is well drawn, and has a great look of being a life-like portrait; his Queen, although elaborately described, is not so successful;—the character which will, we fancy, find the most favour with the reader is Willie Armstrong, the Moss Trooper. His escape from Carlisle Castle is not only a stirring incident graphically described, but it is quite true.

The book will be a welcome addition to circulating libraries, and will, we have no doubt, be in request, for it is pleasant reading, and though the story is laid in times so long ago, the interest is fresh, and requires no effort to get it up; this is no small praise when speaking of an historical novel, which generally requires some courage to encounter.

Clara Howard; or, Heart Yearnings for the Unseen and the Abiding: a Tale. (Nisbet & Co.)—*Clara Howard* is a religious novel. With questions of theology the *Athenæum* never meddles. But we have a word or two to say concerning the moral of the work before us. Clara Howard is a heiress as well as a heroine. Whilst a young girl, and only in training for the perfection she afterwards attains, she goes upon a visit to some worldly relations. She has vague scruples about going to balls and operas, without exactly knowing why; but she is induced to go to one ball to please her father. She goes with religious reluctance; and it is placed to the credit side of her virtue that she "went attired in a simple white dress, with small pink rosebuds in her hair and bosom, and, with the exception of a pearl necklace and bracelets, entirely without ornament." The delicate distinction between the virtue of pearls and the vanity of diamonds is thus indicated:—her cousin, who is quite a "worldly young woman," asks: "But why so few jewels?—where are the diamonds?"—"In my dressing-case," replies Clara; "where, my dear Kate, if you please, they will remain. Their brilliancy might attract and make me conspicuous."—"Do you expect to pass unnoticed then?"—"Yes, I hope so. Why not?"—We might remark in passing that a judicious *chaperon* would scarcely have permitted a young, unmarried girl to shine in diamonds, whether she were well inclined to them or not. Of course, Clara Howard has a brilliant success, and has lovers in stars and asterisks at her feet, but she refuses them, and in good set speeches, which would have delighted the hearts of Dr. Gregory and Mrs. Chaponne for their propriety. She has a fixed idea that she ought to give up everything for the sake of religion; and she is held up for admiration because she forsakes all the duty that lies close at hand and goes to do it precisely "in the station to which it has" NOT "pleased God to call her." She leaves her estate and her tenantry to marry a clergyman and go out with him as a missionary to India. In process of time they have a family of children, who are all sent to England for education. At the end of sixteen years the heroine has to return to England for her health:—her husband comes along with her that he may be made a Bishop. At the end of a few months she again prepares to leave her children,—"no persuasion," we are told, "could induce her to remain." "Surely," says the Author, "her husband thought her more than human, something between woman and an angel. No sacrifice was too great, no difficulty too hard, to be surmounted. She loved him and her Master's work too well to think of quitting her post; and she was resolved to return, still to labour in the glorious work." Angels are not expected to be human,—which may explain the calmness with which this heroine delegates her maternal duties to her eldest son, a boy of some fourteen years. "When we are gone away," said she, "you must try to teach and lead them in the right way. Alfred is merry and light hearted, and apt to be less serious than I could wish sometimes; whilst Emily clings to us so tenderly that I fear it will almost break her little heart to part from us again. You must endeavour to make up for our loss."—The story, as a story, is weak and trashy; and the moral we should inculcate on its reading would be, not to follow the angelic heroine's example.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Ismere; or, Smyrna and its British Hospital in 1855. By a Lady. (Madden.)—This is a very pleasant and interesting book, written in a simple, unaffected style, and containing a graphic account of the interior of the hospital and of the condition and employments of the ladies and nurses who went out to Smyrna in March, 1855. "The

burden and heat of the day" had by that time somewhat passed by. Smyrna was further removed from the seat of war than Scutari and Kulali, and was filled more with medical than surgical cases. It was, also, more completely organized than the hospitals in the beginning. Therefore, although there was abundant misery, and plenty of work for the ladies and nurses, still the details were less ghastly; there was not that heart-sickening discrepancy between gigantic suffering and the ineffectual relief that could be afforded, which made the early days in the first hospitals so terrible. The present work contains very interesting records of the soldiers, both as patients and convalescents, and their mode of employing and amusing themselves, together with some of their letters, pieces of poetry, of their own composing, chiefly devotional, which give a curious insight into the life and ideas of soldiers, of whom, in the nature of things, the world outside the barracks can know little or nothing. The charm of this book is, that it is quite free from sentimentalism, either of religion or philanthropy, and is written with a hearty, wholesome sense of humour, which is a most excellent thing either in man or woman.

Memoirs and Journal of the Life and the Works of Bossuet, published for the First Time from the Autograph Manuscripts, and accompanied with an Introduction and Notes. By M. le Abbé Guettée. 2 vols. (Paris, Didier & Co.)—We have again and again expressed impatience at the absence of general interest which distinguishes recent biographies of Dissenting clergymen. This French book calls on us to point out that the complaint is restricted to no church, to no country, to no period. Here are two volumes from which we looked to get food, and in which we have found little save husks of the driest quality. The "Old Mortality" of France have of late been furnishing up and repairing the tomb of the Bishop of Meaux, as one among their neglected sepulchres. The eloquent but turgid character of the great preacher put forth by M. de Lamartine was referred to in the *Athenæum* on its publication [ante, p. 102], and did its part in refreshing memory on the subject. Accordingly, we turned to this new memoir of Bossuet, and to the minute diary kept by his admiring secretary, the Abbé Le Dieu, with expectation. It seemed hardly possible but that two such purvus volumes must contain matter for the universal reader, as well as for the controversial student of Gallican church history. The dullness of an episcopal palace, however, proves to be more idealess, adust, and oppressive than we had supposed, though we are not unfamiliar with those cheerless mansions in the French cathedral towns where the dignitaries who represent the holder of St. Peter's keys wear away their lives in official bustle, or let them moulder out in sensual torpidity. The "eagle of Meaux," as here shown, reminds us of the eagle in one of those companies of stupefied prisoners, misnamed "a happy family." We see his obsequiousness to the Court—we are told of his genius, charity, and sweetness. His "short and easy methods" of proselytizing are dismissed in phrases of smooth and delicate no-meaning, intended to lap the soul of the admiring reader in the Elysian belief that they were more matters of form and arrangement than of persecution and of intimidation hiding jail and gibbet irons under

the lace of Peace's coat.

—The book, in short, despite of the "caramel cover" of sweetness and charity thrown over it, seems to us stupid, sickly, and not altogether sincere.

Lunar Motion. By Jellinger C. Symons, Esq. (Groombridge & Sons.)—This is, we suppose, the final reply of the mover of this curious controversy. It contains, besides the arguments of its author, some letters from the Astronomer Royal, which are worth reading, on the subject. It contains also the author's insinuation that the doctrine of the moon's rotation on its axis is one of the "silver shrines of the craftsmen." Mr. Symons and his controversy will be so far useful that a great many persons will be led by them to a clear perception of what at first sight offers a little difficulty. Mr. Symons will thank us, we have no doubt, for

making as widely known as we can what, in our language, must be expressed by saying that he persists in his error.

Nomos: an Attempt to Demonstrate a Central Physical Law in Nature. (Longman & Co.)—The author shows himself competent to understand existing theories, and gives a better notion of them than he does of his own. He does not make himself intelligible to us. He seems to admit the theory of gravitation, and yet wants electric currents to produce the elliptic motion of the earth and planets. Our business, however, is to forward on, as directed. Accordingly, we inform the public that this is an ambitious attempt to satisfy the long-felt aspiration of material philosophers—the grand junction of electricity, magnetism, heat, light, &c., in one universal agent, and the establishment of its relations with chemistry. This may come some day: all we can say is, that, if the present work contain it, it has come to us under a cloud. Nevertheless, the author shows reading, and, as to the notions of others, perspicuity: so that we cannot help suspecting that the difficulty is more the fault of his system than of himself.

The Sindh Railway, and its Relations to the Euphrates Valley and other Routes to India. By W. P. Andrew. (Allen & Co.)—The plans for opening Sindh to railway enterprise have a bearing, not merely on the interests of one British Indian province, but on the whole question of the intercourse of India with Europe, and of one Indian territory with all the others. Kurrachee is the only land-locked harbour on the coast between Bombay and the Red Sea—the nearest safe port to the Persian Gulf—and may be connected, by a line 110 miles in length, with the Indus, the great commercial artery of the countries on the north-west frontier. From a point selected, near Hyderabad, there are 570 miles of permanently open navigation, to Mooltan; from that point downwards the best steamer can scarcely work its way, through the intricacies of the Delta, and, by sea, to Kurrachee. "From the Sutlej to the Oxus, whoever wishes to communicate with any place beyond the sea must pass through Kurrachee," the water-gate of Kashmir, Tibet, Cabul, Ghizni, Kandahar, and Herat; of Northern Persia, Turkistan and Bokhara, and of other territories inhabited by trading communities, as far as the Caspian Sea. Formerly those countries were supplied by way of the Indus; now they draw upon Europe through the channel of the Volga, which even furnishes a large class of traders in the Punjab, and threatens with rivalry those English manufacturers who spin and weave for the north-west provinces of Bengal! Talk of Russian invasions! Here is Russian trade invading Bengal by land; and all because the natural lines of communication with Central Asia are not freely opened. This subject has been frequently discussed, and from various points of view. Perhaps, however, it has not hitherto received an exposition so large and so practical as in Mr. W. P. Andrew's volume, explanatory of the railway operations progress in Sindh. This work, divided into chapters and sections, and abounding in references of weight and value, is furnished with an extraordinary apparatus of maps, diagrams, plans, and tables, which, if the reader will study them carefully in connexion with the text, will place the entire question before him, broadly as well as in detail. Within twenty years a library of important literature has been accumulated on the politics and commerce of Central Asia; and of this library Mr. Andrew has made the best use. His memoir is of considerable value as an exposition of the necessities of British India in connexion with railway and river navigation.

Biography of Mdlle. Rose Bonheur. By M. F. Lepelle de Bois-Gallais. Translated by James Parry. (Gambart & Co.)—That was not the luckiest day in the life of Mdlle. Rose Bonheur when M. F. Lepelle de Bois-Gallais took her in hand. If there were no more to be told than what he tells, why tell anything?—and wherefore tell his nothing in a style which recalls some perfumer's History of "Windsor Soap," or some showman's chronicle of "the wonderful performances of *Sig^{nora} Transcendent*, the incomparable Calculating

Phenomenon"? The pictures of Mdlle. Bonheur have made her publicly known as one of the most remarkable women who ever attacked easel. She has been admired in private (it is not impertinent to say as much in face of such a puff as the one before us) for the honest and cordial simplicity of her manners. If she were a counterfeit, instead of being a real genius, her friends—good or ill natured—could hardly have done more than they have here done to give the world an impression, pretending the while kindness and sympathy, that counterfeit she is. Mr. Parry, too, has performed his office of gentleman-usher in the true spirit of a "gentleman's gentleman" marshalling a *Mrs. Kitty*. His apology for sinking any "little pecuniary difficulty which pressed upon the early days of Mdlle. Rosa Bonheur," from fear of "the unintentional prejudice" which it might create, if "presented to the English reader in the words used by the French author," is a touch of pantry politeness which, we believe, nine-tenths of the dwellers in the land below stairs would now join us in ridiculing. There are few facts in this memoir to carry off the mass of fine language of which it is made up. We learn from it merely that Mdlle. Rosa is a *Bordelaise*,—that she was born in the claret-capital in 1822, the daughter of an artist, from whom solely (and not, as has been said, from M. Léon Coigniet) she derived her instruction,—that in 1841 her pictures already attracted attention,—and that, among other courses of study, she has gone through the ordeal of frequent attendance at the slaughter-houses of Paris.—Mdlle. Bonheur, further, is stated to be an adept in the art of modelling. The above facts are literally all that we gather from the pamphlet before us.

Mr. W. F. Cooke has now published his "reply" to Prof. Wheatstone's "answer," entitling it *The Electric Telegraph, Was it invented by Prof. Wheatstone?* The case is now before the public, which will form its own decision.—Other questions of discovery—in appropriate relation to which we may refer to Lord Stanley's *Memorandum on Suggested Improvements in the Patent Laws*—are also under discussion,—that of *The Discovery of Gold and Silver in Australia* being debated in favour of Count Strzelecki, whose investigations in 1837 undoubtedly established the existence of the precious metals in the Australian Cordillera.—Mr. David M'Callum has issued a minute account, with illustrations, of his *Globotype Telegraph, a Recording Instrument*, an invention intended to supersede the needle telegraph, and to dispense with the use of paper, pencils, and clockwork.—The correspondence of the Lords of the Admiralty with Mr. John Clare, on the subject of his improvements in the construction of masts, floating batteries, &c., has been published,—as well as a proposal of *A New Naval Armament, Maximum Force in Minimum Space*, by Commander Wheatley.—Mr. S. F. Wilson's *Lecture on the Uses of Glycerine*,—Mr. J. B. Lawes and Dr. J. H. Gilbert's *Reply to Baron Liebig's Principles of Agricultural Chemistry*,—and the *Chemical Report on the Mode of Detecting Vegetable Substances mixed with Coffee*, by Prof. Graham, Dr. Stenhouse, and Mr. Dugald Campbell, may be added to this list,—with Dr. W. Alexander's treatise on *The Adulteration of Food and Drunks*.—Dr. Headland's interesting notes on *Poisoning by the Root of the Aconitum Napellus*,—Mr. Callaway's *Hunterian Oration on Surgery*,—Dr. John Struthers' *Introductory Address*, delivered at Surgeons' Hall, Edinburgh, *On the Study of Medicine*,—and Dr. Southwood Smith's *Lecture on Epidemics*.—Mr. John Gibbs's letter *On Compulsory Vaccination* has been promoted to the dignity of a Blue-book.—In *The Drainage of London*, addressed to the Metropolitan Board of Works, Mr. W. W. Pocock urges the alarming theory, that the soil of England is running off, acre after acre, day by day, through the sewers, into the sea.—Relating to public works in India, *Col. Baker's Official Report on Col. Cotton's Papers*.—Col. Cotton's *Letters to the Society of Arts* in reply, and his interesting pamphlet on the *Profits upon British Capital expended on Indian Public Works, as shown by the Results of the Godavary Delta Works of Irrigation and Navigation*, lie on our table together.—Lord Albemarle's *Speech on Torture in*

the Madras Presidency,—and Sir Erskine Perry's *Speech on Indian Finance and the Policy of Annexation* are among recent miscellanies on Eastern subjects.—On special public topics, we have Mr. Henry Nemo's *War and Peace*,—A Letter to the Marquis of Breadalbane, *On the Peace and its Prospects*,—Capt. J. W. Crowe's *Yesterday and To-morrow; or, Shadows of the War*,—*The Militia as an Army of Reserve*, by J. W. C.,—*Prevention and Reformation*, by Stephen Cave, and *A Proposal for a New Penal Settlement in Connexion with the Colonization of the Uninhabited Districts of British North America*, by Alexander K. Isbister.—The Messrs. Grissell have published part of their *Correspondence with the War Department* in reference to the alleged defects in the mortars supplied by them.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Alcock's *Health, Work, and Play*, cr. 8vo. 2s. cl.
Adams's *Hints on Dress for Ladies*, 18mo. 1s. cl.
Aldie's *Eleemos*, and other Poems, fe. 8vo. 5s. cl.
Anderson's *Lake Ngami*, 2nd edit. fe. 8vo. 30s. cl.
Banini's *The Smuggler*, new edit. fe. 8vo. 2s. cl.
Bartlett's *Geographical, &c. Account of Wellington*, 2nd edit. 4s. cl.
Becher's *Landmarks*, fe. 8vo. 2s. cl.
Bennet's *Present State of Uterine Pathology*, 8vo. 4s. cl.
Bohn's Standard Lib. *Thierry's Norman Conquest*, Vol. 1, 3s. 6d.
Bohn's Classical Lib. *Demosthenes against Leptines*, 5s. cl.
Bohn's French Medals, *Duke of Wellington*, Vol. 2, 3s. 6d.
Bohn's *Illustrated Guide to the Countries of Europe*, 1st ed. with maps, 2s. 6d.
Braithwaite's *Retrospect of Medicine*, Vol. 2, 3s. 6d.
Breen's *Practical Astronomy*, cr. 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl.
British Controversialist, Vol. I. New Series, or. 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl.
Burton's *Fairy Footsteps in Fairyland*, 18mo. 1s. cl.
Carr's *Plants of the Alpine Region*, 2nd edit. or. 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl.
Car's *Married not Mated*, 8vo. 1s. 6d. bds.
Chamber's Journal, Vol. 5, Jan. to June, 1856, royal 8vo. 4s. 6d. cl.
Cocks & Co.'s *Handbook of Gales*, by Warren, Vols. 1 and 2, 2s. each.
Coggan's *Handbook for Travellers in Switzerland*, 18mo. 3s. cl.
Compensation, a Story of Real Life, 3 vols. fe. 8vo. 9s. cl.
Dalrymple's (*Mistress Kate*) *Diary*, 1855—1735, 3 vols. 31s. 6d. cl.
Diana Wyndham, by Author of "Alice Wentworth," 3 vols. 31s. 6d. cl.
Doig's Stories about the Duke and St. George, cr. 8vo. 2s. cl.
Forbes's *Sight Seeing in Germany and Tyrol* in 1855, 10s. 6d. cl.
Fullon's *Man of the World*, 3 vols. post 8vo. 31s. 6d. cl.
Giles's *Foreign Phrases Familiarized*, 18mo. 1s. cl. swd.
Hallam's *Europe during Middle Ages*, 11th edit. 3 vols. 30s. cl.
Hawthorne's *Man of Property*, 1856, 18mo. 1s. cl.
Herzer's *Real Encyclop*, Condensed, tr. by Bomberger, Pt. 1, 3s. 6d. cl.
Hughes's *Outlines of Scripture Geography*, 3rd edit. 4s. 6d. cl.
Mansfield's *Paraguay, Brazil, and the Plate*, fe. 8vo. 12s. 6d. cl.
Miner's *Geological Manual*, 1856, 18mo. 1s. cl.
Murray's *Handbook of Modern Europe*, 1856, by Cunningham, 5s.
Neale's *Readings for the Aged*, Third Series, 12mo. 3s. 6d. cl.
Notes and Queries, General Index to Vols. 1—12, 4s. 6d. cl.
Oliver's *Celestial Philosophy*, 1856, 18mo. 1s. cl. bds.
Papworth's *Manual of Photography*, 1856, 18mo. 1s. cl.
Pictorial Bible, by Dr. Kitto, new edit. Vol. 4, super-royal 8vo. 12s.
Pictorial History of England, new edit. Vol. 3, 1s. 6d. cl.
Pratt's *Law of Lighting and Watching Parishes*, 3rd edit. 4s. 6d. bds.
Railway Library, "Cupids Green Hand," fe. 8vo. 1s. 6d. bds.
Watson of Conwy by Author of "Visiting my Relations," 4s. cl.
Weller's *Illustrations of the Variation of Species*, 2s. cl.
Wood sorrel, or Leaves from a Retired Home, royal 18mo. 3s.
Wybrow's (*Rev. F.*) *Memor*, fe. 8vo. 1s. 6d. cl.

MR. CARRUTHERS AND THE POPE MANUSCRIPTS AT MAPLE-DURHAM.

A new edition of Mr. Carruthers's *'Life and Poems of Pope'* is said to be in preparation. I am glad of it. The Poems are a neat and cheap edition, and the Life is a pleasant biography; both being somewhat the worse for many hideous woodcuts. Here, however, commendation must end. The Life has been made pleasant at great cost; no less than four octavo volumes of Letters having been cut up and studded like little stars over the narrative, by way of adornment. To this, in a mere popular narrative, I should not object; but Mr. Carruthers has adopted the letters for facts, argument, and quotation, without consideration as to authenticity or dates,—most important questions as bearing on the feelings of the man. Here, however, Mr. Carruthers is only open to such censure as applies to all previous biographers of Pope; but Mr. Carruthers had some special facilities which others had not,—and to that extent, at least, his obligations are personal and special.

I know of but two of Pope's many annotators—the late Mr. Chalmers and Mr. Carruthers—who have been permitted to examine the Maple-Durham Manuscripts. In respect, therefore, to those Manuscripts, it became a point of honour to speak by the card,—to weigh every word,—to quote with literal accuracy; yet, strange as it must appear, the quotations of Mr. Carruthers do not always

agree with the assertions of Mr. Chalmers, and Mr. Carruthers himself makes assertions the natural inference from which must be, that if he has seen those Manuscripts he certainly has not examined them.

Thus, in respect to the well-known 'Verses addressed to Martha Blount on her Birthday,' Mr. Carruthers tells us:—

"The original copy of the verses is preserved at Maple-Durham, addressed to Martha, and entitled, 'Written June 15, on your Birthday, 1723.'"

That verses were addressed to Martha on her birthday, 1723, has long been known; and all, therefore, that we learn from this examination of the original manuscript is simply that these known facts are specifically noted thereon. In further proof, however, as might be supposed, of personal examination, Mr. Carruthers directs attention, in a note, to certain variations. The last lines, he says, stood "originally thus in the manuscript," and he quotes four lines, as the reader will infer, from the original manuscript. As the poem consists of but twenty lines, it would be fair to assume that, with the exception of these four lines, the printed copy agrees exactly with the original manuscript preserved at Maple-Durham.

It is a fact, however, that these same four lines, with the exact same five words of introduction,—"originally thus in the manuscript,"—have appeared in every important edition of Pope's works, from Warburton's, in 1751, down to Roscoe's, in 1847; and why Warburton affected to speak on the authority of the manuscript, and to quote from it, I know not, seeing that the poem, as originally published, contained those same four lines, and that it had been published in Pope's lifetime, and a quarter of a century before Warburton's edition appeared. Warburton, indeed, may have seen a manuscript copy of the verses, for there were many; but, considering the antagonistic position in which he stood towards Martha Blount some time before Pope died, it is not likely. I think, that he had seen "the original manuscript." It is more strange that Mr. Carruthers follows Warburton so exactly that he affixes the reference to the 15th line instead of the 17th, thus leading the reader to infer—as Warburton had done—that the four lines quoted stood originally for the six concluding lines—which is a mistake.

The earliest copy of the "Verses," so far as I know, was sent to the unknown lady to whom Pope addressed the Letters, published by Dodsky, in 1769,—probably Dorothy Hobart, niece to Mrs. Howard, afterwards Countess of Suffolk. In the letter which accompanied them, Pope thus wrote:

"I was the other day forming a wish for a lady's happiness upon her birthday; and thinking of the great climax of felicity I could raise, step by step, to end in this—a Friend. I fancy I have succeeded in the gradation, and send you the whole copy. * * Mrs. H.—made me promise her a copy; and to the end she may value it, I beg it may be transcribed and sent her by you."

Then follow the verses, inscribed—

"To a Lady on her Birthday,
1723."

These verses—"the whole copy"—consisted of only fourteen lines, and conclude with the four lines, slightly varied, quoted by Warburton as from the original manuscript. As, however, this copy was not published until 1769, Warburton may not, though Mr. Carruthers must, or ought to, have known of its existence.

The next time we meet with these Verses is in a blank leaf at the end of a volume presented by Pope to Mrs. Newsham in 1725. According to the Stowe Catalogue, in which they are printed, they are entitled—

"A Wish, to Mrs. M. B. on her Birthday, June 15th."

Next year—1726—these Verses were published by Lintot in Pope's 'Miscellany Poems,' as—

"THE WISH. Sent to Mrs. M. B. on her Birthday, June 15th."

They appear also in an edition of the same work, with 1727 on the title-page.

There can be no reasonable doubt that these several copies—manuscript, and printed, and contemporary—are copies of the original Verses sent to Martha Blount. With very slight variations, they agree—all consist of fourteen lines, and

conclude with the four lines preserved by Mr. Carruthers in his century-old note. All, therefore, that we have gained by Mr. Carruthers's examination of the Maple-Durham Manuscripts is the inference—unavoidable—that there are no other variations between the manuscript and the printed copy than are to be found in those last four lines. Strange this;—strange that Mr. Carruthers was not startled into examination and explanation by observing that the original—so far as we are informed, and as I believe—consisted of fourteen lines, whereas the copy printed by Mr. Carruthers extends to twenty lines.

It appears that the very year after Lintot had published Pope's 'Miscellany Poems,' Motte—1727—published "the last volume" of Swift and Pope's 'Miscellanies'; and in the latter we find the 'Verses to M. B.' with considerable variations. Not only are the four concluding lines altered, as noticed by the commentators from Warburton to Carruthers, but the following six lines are introduced after the fourth line:—

Not as the World its pretty Slaves rewards,
A Youth of Frolicks, an Old-Age of Cards;
Fair to no Purpose, artful to no End,
Young without Lovers, old without a Friend;
A Fop their Passion, but their Prize a Sot;
Alive, ridiculous; and dead, forgot!

Four lines substituted, and six added, to a Poem of only fourteen—a Poem which the reader naturally assumes to have been struck off in the heat of the moment—improvised on occasion of a birthday—seem to me such a departure from the "original" as to deserve a comment.

But these six Verses are of especial interest, for the appropriation of them was one of the professed grounds of Pope's quarrel with James Moore Smith. In the little dramatic note prefixed to the Dunciad—1729—a gentleman is made to accuse Pope of having stolen them from 'The Rival Modes,' performed and published in 1726. This, of course, was only to prepare the way for Pope's crushing rejoinder, which concludes with references to Bethel, Bolingbroke, and "the lady to whom the said Verses were originally addressed," * * who knew them as our author's long before the said gentleman composed his play." No one reading this note in the Dunciad, 1729, and having read the Verses "To M. B., sent 'on her Birthday,' in Motte's 'Miscellanies,' 1727, could doubt that Martha Blount was "the lady" referred to, and that the Verses were part of those "addressed" to her in 1723. Yet such is not the fact, as proved by two contemporary manuscripts and by the copy printed and published in 1726, and already referred to. That the Verses were Pope's will not be questioned,—Mr. Smith never denied it, and seemingly gave them as a quotation in his play; but, so far as appears, this insertion of them in the "Verses" addressed to M. B., and their publication in Motte's 'Miscellany,' was a deliberate attempt to establish the fact by false evidence. I cannot but believe that Pope had some regrets at this unworthy proceeding, for the Moore Smith Verses were omitted from the Dunciad in 1736, and struck out of the "Verses to M. B." when published by Dodsky in 1738.

We have not yet got at a complete history of the Verses published by Mr. Carruthers, and in pursuit of it we must hunt in another direction.

In 1776, a work was published, called 'Additions to the Works of Alexander Pope,' a work of some interest in relation to the man, though not perhaps of much as concerns the Poet. This work has been attributed to George Steevens, a name of authority in such matters; and, in the Preface, we are told that "many of the Letters and Poems were transcribed with accuracy from the originals in the collections of the late Lords Oxford and Bolingbroke." In this work appears a poem "To Mrs. Martha Blount on her Birthday, 1724. By Mr. Pope." It is obvious that this inscription—with its "by Mr. Pope"—was not written by Pope, and that, by whomsoever written, it is an error. The evidence is clear and conclusive that 'The Wish,' if I may so call it, was written in 1723; and Pope, in a letter to Martha Blount, beginning "This is a day of wishes," refers distinctly to those Verses as written on her preceding birthday:—

"Were I to tell you what I wish for you in particular, it would be only to repeat in prose what I told you last year in rhyme (so sincere is my poetry)."

Pope, therefore, did not send Verses to Martha Blount on her birthday in 1724; and it is in the highest degree improbable, from internal evidence, that these particular Verses were addressed to her or to any other person. They are melancholy reflections, arising out of personal feeling, consequent on the self-murder of Mordaunt, the brother of his friend the Earl of Peterborough, who shot himself on the 7th of May, 1724.

As these Verses have not even been published by Mr. Carruthers, they may, as a curiosity, be welcome.—

If added days of life bring nothing new,
But, like a slave, let every pleasure through;
Some Joy still lost, as each vain year runs o'er,
And all we gain, some pensive notion more;
Is this a birthday? ah! 'tis sadly clear,
'Tis but the fun'ral of the former year.
If there's no hope with kind, the fainter ray,
To gild the evening of our future day;
If every page of life's long volume tell
The same dull story—Mordaunt! thou didst well.

That these Verses were written by Pope there can be no doubt; that they were written in 1724 is more than probable; and Pope, in a letter addressed to Gay, says they were written on his own birthday, which seems natural. The letter to Gay is, indeed, an obvious manufacture; but manufacture or not makes no difference to my argument, for it was published in 1735, and thus concludes:—

Adieu! This is my birth-day, and this is my reflection upon it,—
With added days of Life give nothing new,
But, like a Slave, let every pleasure thro';
Some Joy still lost, as each vain year runs o'er,
And all we gain, some sad Reflection more!
Is this a Birth-day?—Tis, alas, too clear,
'Tis but the Fun'ral of the former Year.

The first publication after the 'Letters' was 'The Works of Alexander Pope,' by Dodsky, in 1738, and therein the Verses to Martha Blount are reproduced from Motte's 'Miscellanies'; except that, in place of the six lines introduced and quoted above—the Moore Smith lines,—we have six other lines substituted; and these, with slight variations, are taken from the Verses suggested by the death of Mordaunt—the very six lines published in 1735, and republished in 1737, and on both occasions said to have been written on his own birthday.

This, then, is the curious history of these twenty lines, which Mr. Carruthers, with his century-old unacknowledged note from Warburton and his reference to "the original copy of the Verses," preserved at Maple-Durham, would lead the public to believe are now published, with the exception of the last four lines, as originally written.

M. C. A.

CAMBRIDGE EXAMINATIONS.

THE English world is at present examination-mad. The aspirants for the Civil Service, the Indian Service, the Army, the Navy, the Law, are all examined, to see how much knowledge they have stowed away. The time may come when the question will be, not how much food has been swallowed, but how much sound health has resulted. As it is, the human head is viewed, to use a term of the pugilists, as a knowledge-box; as one of those strange portmanteaus which are pictorially advertised, which open in twenty places, and hold a traveller's allowance of everything.

Cambridge is the great source of the current notions about examinations. Seven or eight years ago we published the 'Cambridge Catechism,' which we now repeat, altered for the public service:—

- QUESTION.—What is knowledge?
- ANSWER.—A thing to be examined in.
- Q.—What is the instrument of knowledge?
- A.—A good grinding tutor.
- Q.—What is the end of knowledge?
- A.—A place in—(Here say the Civil Service, the Army, &c., as the case may be.)
- Q.—What must those do who would show knowledge?
- A.—Get up subjects, and write them out.
- Q.—What is getting up a subject?
- A.—Learning to write it out.
- Q.—What is writing out a subject?
- A.—Showing that you have got it up.

Q.—Why do you explain each of these terms by help of the other?

A.—Because neither of them has to do with anything but the other.

Q.—What do you say to those who talk about habits to be formed in the acquisition of knowledge, and who insinuate that getting up is about as fit to form those habits as writing out is to show them?

A.—That is the Government look out: I am to get the place if I can, and they are then to get some good out of me, if they can. Every one for himself and a stiff examination-paper for us all.

Nothing is too recondite to come into what used to be called at Cambridge a paper of *cram questions*. The University of London—not University College, with which it is often confounded,—examines boys of sixteen, fresh from school, in *English*, for the matriculation. Look through their series of question papers, not those for honours, but those for the mere pass, and—though matters have been of late years somewhat mended—the nature and tendency of the Cambridge system of examining will appear in its full flower. The lads are asked, in order to test their knowledge of *English*, what is the reason of the differences between the French, Italian, and Spanish; to which branch of the Indo-European family the Afghan language is to be referred; what is the superlative form in Sanscrit; and how the letters of the classical languages change in Meso-Gothic.

Cambridge owes the world a reform; and we are inclined to hope she begins to acknowledge her debt. For a long time everything has been made subservient to her *Derby days*, as we may call them, in which the competitors run their pen-and-ink races for University honours. We take the following from a recent Report made by the Board of Mathematical studies to the Senate. Every paragraph shows up evils which are as well known to the undergraduates as the first proposition of the first book of Euclid.—

The Moderators have called the attention of the Mathematical Board to the following points:—

1st. They wish to impress strongly upon the attention of students the fact that the hurried and consequently imperfect manner in which too many questions are answered, is materially prejudicial to themselves, and that the loss thus incurred upon each question, is by no means compensated by the opportunity thus afforded of attacking a greater number of questions.

2nd. They complain of a tendency to algebraic forms and methods in the treatment of the Conic Sections in the first three days of Examination, and desire to call the attention of Mathematical Tutors generally to this fact, and to recommend to Candidates for Honours a more careful study of the properties of Conic Sections by geometrical methods.

3rd. They would direct the attention of Students to the necessity of giving definitions and explanations of fundamental principles completely and fully, questions upon these points being considered as valuable tests of the knowledge of the subjects to which they refer. This remark applies more especially to Elementary Dynamics and Astronomy, in both which subjects the papers even of the more distinguished of the Candidates have frequently exhibited a want of clearness of conception, and of habits of close and accurate thought.

4th. They also recommend the adoption of the suggestion made last year by the Board of Mathematical Studies, that the last two Problem Papers should be considerably diminished in length. Twelve or fourteen carefully selected Problems of the usual difficulty would, in their opinion, be sufficient to give to each Candidate an opportunity of evincing his knowledge of the subjects to which his studies may have been principally directed.

The Examiners for Ordinary Degrees have called the attention of the Board to the circumstances that the character of the answers to the questions in Mechanics and Hydrostatics tends to show that the propositions prescribed by the Schedule defining the course of Examination for Ordinary Degrees are in too many cases merely got by rote, without being at all understood. The Board would recommend that the forms in which the propositions are given in the Schedule should not be so strictly adhered to in the questions proposed in the Examination. They make this recommendation in consequence of its appearing, from the papers recently set, that Examiners have not generally considered themselves at liberty to deviate in any respect from the exact words of the Schedule.

On the third recommendation we have a question to ask. Where are the Cambridge books to be found which deal in "giving definitions and explanations of fundamental principles completely and fully"? Has not the examination system acted upon these books so as to cut down the preliminary explanations into what we long ago called *examination-snips*, bits to be *got up and written out*?

In looking through a recently published volume of Examination Papers, as given at Cambridge in 1855 and 1856, we observe a significant novelty. Hitherto, common arithmetic, strange to say, has never been insisted on. Questions of arithmetic

have always been given, but mixed with questions on algebra, &c.; so that a student who had reason for avoiding arithmetic, might make up his amount of qualification without it. Now, for the first time, we see, in the "previous examination," which undergraduates call the *little-go*, papers on arithmetic only, in which the student is compelled to show himself for what he is in that subject. We should like to hear the examiners' account of the answers; for we have much reason to suppose that while high mathematics are in high feather among the high men, low mathematics are at a low ebb among the low men, and among a great many of the high ones. But, as we said, we believe the reform is coming, and coming from the right quarter. Young men will before very long cease to be deep in the binomial theorem before they clearly understand the addition of two fractions: and, when a better system has destroyed the evil at its source, boys will not be invited to accompany vowels and consonants out of Greek into Meso-Gothic before they have well learnt how to spell what Win Jenkins, in '*Humphry Clinker*', calls the *ethnich* words in their own language.

THE ARCTIC MYSTERY.

A memorial, signed by influential authorities, has been addressed to the First Lord of the Treasury, praying for a final and limited search after the relics of the Erebus and Terror—the lost ships in which Franklin and his crews left England. At Mr. Weld's reception last week at the Royal Society, we saw a few more relics of the two vessels,—relics newly received in this country, and which, we grieve to say, leave no doubt on our own minds of the sad fate of those bold and glorious seamen. Yet we, and many more, should be glad to exchange our present sad impressions for a calming certainty, if certainty be possible; and we do not wonder that plans continue to be urged on Government for final search,—especially since the expedition of Dr. Rae has furnished some clue to the mystery. The following is the Memorial now under consideration at the Admiralty:—

"To the Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, M.P.
G.C.B."

"London, June 5.
"Impressed with the belief that Her Majesty's missing ships, the Erebus and Terror, or their remains, are still frozen up at no great distance from the spot whence certain relics of Sir John Franklin and his crews were obtained by Dr. Rae,—we whose names are undersigned, whether men of science and others who have taken a deep interest in Arctic discovery, or explorers who have been employed in the search for our lost countrymen, beg earnestly to impress upon your Lordship the desirability of sending out an Expedition to satisfy the honour of our country, and clear up a mystery which has excited the sympathy of the civilized world.

"This request is supported by many persons well versed in Arctic surveys, who, seeing that the proposed Expedition is to be directed to one limited area only, are of opinion that the object is attainable, and with little risk.

"We can scarcely believe that the British Government, which to its great credit has made so many efforts in various directions to discover even the route pursued by Franklin, should cease to prosecute research, now that the locality has been clearly indicated where the vessels or their remains must lie,—including, as we hope, records which will throw fresh light on Arctic geography, and dispel the obscurity in which the voyage and fate of our countrymen are still involved.

"Although most persons have arrived at the conclusion that there can now be no survivors of Franklin's Expedition, yet there are eminent men in our own country and in America who hold a contrary opinion. Dr. Kane, of the United States, for example, who has distinguished himself by pushing farther to the north in search of Franklin than any other individual, and to whom the Royal Geographical Society has recently awarded its Founders' Gold Medal, thus speaks (in a letter to the benevolent Mr. Grinnell):—'I am really in doubt as to the preservation of human life. I well

know how glad I would have been, had my duty to others permitted me, to have taken refuge among the Esquimaux of Smith Strait and Etah Bay. Strange as it may seem to you, we regarded the coarse life of these people with eyes of envy, and did not doubt but that we could have lived in comfort upon their resources. It required all my powers, moral and physical, to prevent my men from deserting to the Walrus Settlements, and it was my final intention to have taken to Esquimaux life had Providence not carried us through in our hazardous escape.'

"But passing from speculation, and confining ourselves alone to the question of finding the missing ships or their records, we would observe that no land Expedition down the Back River, like that which, with great difficulty, recently reached Montreal Island, can satisfactorily accomplish the end we have in view. The frail birch-bark canoes in which Mr. Anderson conducted his search with so much ability, the dangers of the river, the sterile nature of the tract near its embouchure, and the necessary failure of provisions, prevented the commencement, even, of such a search as can alone be satisfactorily and thoroughly accomplished by the crew of a man-of-war,—to say nothing of the moral influence of a strong armed party remaining in the vicinity of the spot until the confidence of the natives be obtained.

"Many Arctic explorers, independent of those whose names are appended, and who are absent on service, have expressed their belief that there are several routes by which a screw-vessel could so closely approach the area in question as to clear up all doubt.

"In respect to one of these courses, or that by Behring Strait, along the coast of North America, we know that a single sailing-vessel passed to Cambridge Bay within 150 miles of the mouth of the Back River, and returned home unscathed,—its commander having expressed his conviction that the passage in question is so constantly open that ships can navigate it without difficulty in one season. Other routes, whether by Regent Inlet, Peel Sound, or across from Repulse Bay, are preferred by officers whose experience in Arctic matters entitle them to every consideration; whilst in reference to two of these routes it is right to state that vast quantities of provisions have been left in their vicinity.

"Without venturing to suggest which of these plans should be adopted, we earnestly beg your Lordship to sanction without delay such an expedition as, in the judgment of a Committee of Arctic Voyagers and Geographers, may be considered best adapted to secure the object.

"We would ask your Lordship to reflect upon the great difference between a clearly-defined voyage to a narrow and circumscribed area, within which the missing vessels or their remains must lie, and those former necessarily tentative explorations in various directions, the frequent allusions to the difficulty of which, in regions far to the north of the voyage now contemplated, have led persons unacquainted with geography to suppose that such a modified and limited attempt as that which we propose involves farther risk and may call for future researches. The very nature of the former expeditions exposed them, it is true, to risk, since regions had to be traversed which were totally unknown; while the search we ask for is to be directed to a circumscribed area, the confines of which have already been reached without difficulty by one of Her Majesty's vessels.

"Now, inasmuch as France, after repeated fruitless efforts to ascertain the fate of La Perouse, no sooner heard of the discovery of some relics of that eminent navigator, than she sent out a Searching Expedition to collect every fragment pertaining to his vessels, so we trust that those Arctic researches which have reflected much honour upon our country may not be abandoned at the very moment when an explanation of the wanderings and fate of our lost navigators seems to be within our grasp.

"In conclusion, we further earnestly pray that it may not be left to the efforts of individuals of another and kindred nation already so distinguished in this cause, nor yet to the noble-minded widow

of our lamented friend, to make an endeavour which can be so much more effectively carried out by the British Government.

"We have the honour to be," &c.

"F. Beaufort, R. I. Murchison, F. W. Beechey, Wrottesley, E. Sabine, Egerton Ellesmere, W. Whewell, R. Collinson, W. H. Sykes, C. Daubeny, J. Fergus, P. E. de Sztrelecki, W. H. Smyth, A. Majendie, R. FitzRoy, E. Gardiner Fishbourne, R. Brown, G. Macartney, L. Horner, W. H. Fitton, Lyon Playfair, T. Thorpe, C. Wheatstone, W. J. Hooker, J. D. Hooker, J. Arrowsmith, P. La Trobe, W. A. B. Hamilton, R. Stephenson, J. E. Portlock, C. Piazzi Smyth, C. W. Pasley, G. Rennie, J. P. Gassiot, G. B. Airy, J. F. Burgoyn."

The Memorial, we believe, was signed in a few hours; and might have been greatly enlarged had the promoters of it thought the display of names necessary. Among the officers of the Royal Navy who have been employed in the search after Franklin, and who are now absent from London, the following have expressed themselves favourable to some such expedition as that now proposed by the Memorials:—Capts. Sir J. Ross and Sir Edward Belcher, Commodore Kellet, Capts. Austin, Bird, Ommanney, Sir Robert M'Clure, Sherard Osborn, Inglefield, Maguire, M'Clintock, and Richards; Commanders Aldrich, Mecham, Trollope, and Cresswell; and Lieuts. Hamilton and Pin.

We do not pretend to have before us all the elements required for judging of this proposal; but we cannot doubt that the Premier and the Admiralty will give it all needful consideration.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE LORDS of the Admiralty, after due consideration, have awarded the 10,000*l.* offered for the first discovery of traces of Franklin, to Dr. Rae and his companions.

In addition to Mrs. Everett Green and Mr. John Bruce—whose appointment to the duty of calendering our state papers we have already announced,—Mr. M. T. Thorpe has been selected to calendar the Scotch and Border Papers. We are glad to hear that this very useful work is proceeding with regularity and success: the first volume of calendars, prepared by Mr. Lemon, may be expected in a few days. It comprises state papers from the commencement of the reign of Edward the Sixth down to the close of the twenty-second year of Elizabeth. Another volume, it is thought, will complete the remaining years of Elizabeth. At the death of Elizabeth Mrs. Green takes up the work; and we hope to hear that this indefatigable lady will have a volume ready for the press in the course of next year.

The Flower Show at the Crystal Palace on Wednesday and Thursday drew a large crowd of visitors from town; the weather was splendid, and the display of geraniums, roses, and azaleas brilliant.

No new feature marked the dinner of the Society of Arts on Tuesday. Prosperous finances, peace in the Council, activity in the departments, ever-increasing members—such is the report to which we now look forward as of course. The dinner passed off with distinguished success.

Government has published a Return of all public monies expended during the five years now past in connexion with institutions founded for the promotion of letters and science. Many of the details now furnished have been laid before our readers; but some will be found new and interesting. Thus, we learn from the Return that 780*l.* have been appropriated by the Royal Society out of the grant of 1,000*l.* for last year, as follows:—

"To Mr. Bachforth, for Calculations to be made for comparing the Results of Experiments on Capillary Attraction with Theory, 5*l.* To Dr. Miller, for the Construction and Verification of Standard Meteorological Instruments by the Kew Observatory, 10*l.* To Dr. Salter, for Inquiries in Experimental Physiology, 5*l.* To Dr. Frankland, for Continuation of Researches on Organo-metallic Bodies, 100*l.* To Mr. Fairbairn, for Experiments on Boiler Explosions, 300*l.* To Mr. Hodgkinson, for prosecuting Experimental Inquiries on the Strength of Materials, 100*l.* To Dr. Carpenter, for Researches in Marine Natural History, 50*l.* To Mr. Baxter, for Researches in Electro-Physiology, 30*l.*"

The Society of Antiquaries, it appears, has never received aid from the Treasury. The expenditure of the British Museum for the year ending last March was a little more than 62,000*l.*, divided into the departments thus:—

"Salaries, &c., 26,053*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.* House expenses, 2,480*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.* Purchases and acquisitions, 14,697*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.* Book-binding, cabinets, &c., 12,025*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* Printing catalogues, making casts, &c., 1,780*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.* Law expenses, fees, &c., 96*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.* Excavations, &c., in Assyria, and transport of marbles, 882*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.* Purchase of the Bernal Antiquities, 3,981*l.* 16*s.*"

The Department of Science and Art, located at Marlborough House, figures as a very large recipient of public monies; the return for the current year being 79,364*l.* This sum includes the expenditure of the Geological Survey, the Meteorological Observations at Sea, and the Royal Dublin Society. From the Society of Arts, the Entomological Society, and the Geological Society the Treasury receives the same answer as from the Antiquaries: and these several bodies rather treat the application of the Treasury for a return of the use they have made of monies never granted to them as a pretty jest. Mr. Mitchell, Secretary of the Zoological Society, turns the joke upon the Treasury rather neatly. In reply to Sir Charles Trevelyan's letter, Mr. Mitchell answers:—

"I have received your letter, dated 7th May, requesting me to furnish you with a return of all sums granted in the five years ending 5th April 1856 to the Zoological Society, distinguishing each year, with the manner in which such sums have been expended, distinguishing the salaries or other remunerations given out of the same. In reply I beg to state, that no grants have been made to the Zoological Society by Her Majesty's Government at any time; but that, on the contrary, the Zoological Society will have paid to Her Majesty's Government, within the five years specified in the order, the large sum of 2,117*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* rent of 26*acres* of land in the Regent's Park; viz.—1852, 337*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.*; 1853, 337*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.*; 1854, 337*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.*; 1855, 398*l.* 12*s.* 5*d.*; 1856, 398*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.*"

—Suppose the Society should apply for a commutation of this rent? On what reasonable ground could the application be refused—in the face of prevailing practice? The Royal Society has a public home. The Royal Academy of Arts has a public home. The Geological and Chemical Societies have public homes. The Geographical Society has five hundred pounds a year to pay its rent. The Society of Antiquaries is lodged at the public expense. Why, then, should the Zoological Society be charged a large rental for its grounds in Regent's Park—grounds which it makes so pleasant and attractive to the public?

A proposition has been made in Bury to found a Northern Counties Literary Association—which is to combine some of the advantages of a Guild of Literature together with the activity of the old French Provincial Academy. The proposers define their objects thus:—"To promote those means which will tend to a more complete development of the literary talents and tastes of this populous district, and to afford pecuniary relief to authors—members of the society—whom life's casualties might place in embarrassed circumstances. Amongst

a variety of means that might be used for effecting the objects in view are suggested the following:—

1st. An annual gathering of the members at some convenient town: the first to take place at Manchester. 2nd. The publication of a quarterly magazine, to serve as a channel of communication and a constant test of the intellectual wealth of the members. 3rd. The occasional issuing of such works (written by members of limited means) as might be deemed worthy of publication: the society guaranteeing the authors against loss. 4th. The occasional offering of prizes for essays, poems, and other literary productions."—Our readers will desire to watch the progress of an institution so novel—considering its locality, a provincial town, in the neighbourhood of Manchester.

A Special General Meeting of the Horticultural Society has been held during the week, at which it was announced that the attempt to raise 5,000*l.* for renewing the experiments at Chiswick had failed,—the sum subscribed, most of it conditional on the whole amount being raised, amounting to 3,267*l.* The efforts of the Society are, we infer, to take a new direction. A resolution was passed, by a majority of forty-two against two dissentients, conceived in the following terms:—

"That this Meeting, after hearing the statement now made, authorizes the Council to take such measures for the re-organization of the Society as they may consider advisable, even though those measures should involve the relinquishment of the Garden at Chiswick and the realization of the property, or any part of the property therein."—In their Report to the Society the Council consider various plans for increasing their revenue; among other points, they touch on a possible reduction of the subscriptions. "It is not to be doubted," they say in their Report, "that the present rate of subscription is too high; and the Council entirely agree with those who urge the necessity of a considerable reduction in the annual subscription. If practicable 2*l.* 2*s.* would be better than 3*l.* 3*s.*, as 3*l.* 3*s.* would be than 4*l.* 4*s.*, the latter sum being still paid by those only who desire to retain privileges commensurate with such an amount. It is thought that many will desire to continue that subscription, that others will consent to split their four guineas into two, and should further arrangements be carried out, the Council will be prepared to propose some of the methods suggested for effecting this reduction of subscription with as little immediate detriment as possible. They trust that eventually the change will have been found extremely beneficial; but this can only be the result of time. When, however, it is seen that the action of the Society continues in vigour, that its means are steadily applied to the advancement of horticulture, and that all which is wanted to increase its utility is increased funds, the Council confidently believe that friends enough of gardening are to be found in this great country to provide amply the means required for such important purposes as those within the scope of the Society. In whatever changes may be effected the Council would in no degree curtail the existing privileges of Fellows; on the contrary, they would desire to extend them by rendering the library more attractive, and by giving the garden the most scientific and practical character attainable." The work of re-constructing the Society is now fairly in the hands of the Council, and we wish them success in their labours.

France and Saxony have agreed on the terms of a convention for the guarantee of literary rights in the two countries.

In a beautiful little valley, near Stockholm, a most remarkable stone, covered with Runic characters, and of considerable dimensions, has been discovered: The inscription is complete, and the ornaments are well executed. Its site, it is presumed, implies facts of more than ordinary importance.

On the island of Gothland,—in the Middle Ages a notable place of rendezvous for the pirates of the Baltic, and, therefore, long since, a rich mine of old coins and other antiquities from Western Europe,—a new discovery has been made. About 1,100 silver coins of the tenth and eleventh centuries, besides some silver ornaments and fragments of an earthen urn, were found near Enges Gard, in the vicinity of Farösund, under a piece of rock.

Our Neapolitan Correspondent sends us a few additional notes on the great work of draining the Lake Fucino, in Lower Italy:—"Two years have elapsed since I invited your attention to the draining of the Lake of Fucino. Since then the management has been most materially changed, and in fact for a long time the works were suspended. Last November, however, they were again resumed, and almost entirely under French direction. M. Mont-Richek is the director-in-chief, M. Bermonet acts as sub-director residing on the spot, and M. Retrou as the agent of the Anonymous Company in Naples. Signor Milleotti, as the agent of the Neapolitan Government, visits the spot every three or four months to see that the terms are complied with, and he reports that several hundred men are actively engaged on this great and, in his opinion, promising work. It was asserted that already some interesting antiquarian discoveries had been made, and that a submerged city had been brought to light. Whatever treasures may be hereafter forthcoming, nothing has as yet been found; in fact, the

great labour is now to open the new sluice and destroy the old one, so that the drainage can have been but very slight. It is generally understood, I believe, that M. d'Agion, the original concessionnaire, has ceded his rights, by private compact, to Torlonia, the Roman prince-banker."

A Correspondent who has recently visited Bolton, and paid particular attention to the working of the Public Library Act in that energetic and improving town, sends us a few notes, which readers in St. Pancras will read with peculiar interest. Our Correspondent says:—"I happened to be for a few hours in the busy manufacturing town of Bolton-le-Moors, and, accompanied by a gentleman who is very well known in the place, I visited the Free Public Library of that town. We looked over the account of the books lent to read, which on the evening of our visit happened to be just 100 volumes; but the librarian told us that the demand was considerably below the average, and had sometimes amounted to three or four hundred a-day. The books asked for seemed generally to be of a very solid character. But a portion set apart as a "Reference Library," and containing books adapted to the purposes of students, was still more remarkable for the high character of its contents. Works of the greatest value in every department of knowledge were ranged along the walls; and eight or ten working men of Bolton, with faces at least as studious as any you meet in the Museum Reading-room, were intently engaged on volumes set before them in the interior of the apartment. We walked round, glancing at the titles on the backs of several of those valuable tomes; and I would almost hazard a conjecture that there were among them some that might be looked for in vain in any public library in London, except the British Museum. I remember noticing the Collected Works of Strype, the *Chronicles of Hall*, *Fabyan*, *Grafton*, &c., the *'Monasticon'* of Dugdale, the *'Annals of Ireland'* by the Four Masters, and a number of other works of equally high character in historical and antiquarian literature. The department of Science, too, seemed to be equally well supplied. Such are the facilities for reading and study which the Bolton people have secured for themselves simply by being earnest in the good cause. I find by a short account of the origin of the library, which was put into my hands, that besides the rate of a halfpenny in the pound at which the inhabitants agreed to tax themselves, in accordance with the provisions of the Act, a public meeting was held to give greater effect to the movement, and in one week subscriptions were received to the amount of twelve or thirteen hundred pounds." Such is the story of a provincial town library. We need no sibyl to inform us that if London persists in its absolute rejection of such means of intellectual culture—and the towns in the north of England advance, as they have lately done,—the intellectual leadership of the empire will pass away from the Thames.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, Trafalgar Square.—The EXHIBITION of the ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS IS NOW OPEN.—Admission, Sixpence Eight till Seven o'clock, One Shilling; Catalogues, One Shilling.

JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A. Secretary.

SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—The FIFTY-SECOND ANNUAL EXHIBITION IS NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 5, Pall Mall East (close to Trafalgar Square), from Nine till Dusk.—Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d.

JOSEPH J. JENKINS, Secretary.

BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall.—The GALLERY, with a COLLECTION of PICTURES by ANCIENT MASTERS and DECEASED BRITISH ARTISTS, is OPEN daily from Ten to Six.—Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d.

GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

FRENCH EXHIBITION.
The THIRD ANNUAL EXHIBITION of PAINTINGS by MODERN ARTISTS of the FRENCH SCHOOL is NOW OPEN, at the Gallery, 121, Pall Mall.—Admission, 1s.; Season Tickets, 5s.; Catalogues, 6d.

B. FRODSHAM, Secretary.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—Patron, H.R.H. PRINCE ALBERT. On Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, Dr. D. WILL lecture on the ADVENTURES AND RISKS OF ARCTIC TRAVELLING.—On Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at 4 and 5, the Grand Series of Views after DAVID SCOTT, as published by FULLER & CO., illustrating BUNYAN'S ALLEGORY of THE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS, with Descriptive Lecture by the REV. J. R. BRAASTER, On Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, Dr. D. WILL lecture by J. H. PARSONS, Esq., on the MOON CONTROVERSY.—On the same days, at 4 and 5, the Historical Entertainment of KENILWORTH; and at 7th and 8th, Performances by MADELINE MUNDIE on the Cither, and by HENRY ZISOM on the Child's Mouth Organ.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—June 23.—Admiral F. W. Beechey, President, in the chair.—Prof. P. A. Munch, of the University of Christiania, was, upon the recommendation of the Council, elected a Corresponding Member; and Messrs. D. Brown, S. Brown, A. Henderson, P. C. Lovet, A. Macgregor, and W. R. O'Bryne, Capt. J. Shepherd, Sir J. P. K. Shuttleworth, Bart., Messrs. K. L. Sutherland, G. C. Taylor, and Lieut.-Col. F. E. Wilmott, were elected Fellows.—"On Central Africa," by Mr. W. D. Cooley.—"Longitude of the Quango, &c.," by Dr. Livingston.—The letter announcing this correction was read, and elicited warm approbation. It was dated, Cabango, May, 1855, at which place Dr. Livingston ascertained that the Cassai, or Cassaby, was not navigable at the Muata ya Noo's capital, being obstructed by rapids and falls; but below the junction of the Cassai with the Quango, it is said that a large river with waves, named the Lobilash, comes from the northeast.—A letter from Mr. Sunley, Mozambique, March last, reports that Dr. Livingston had arrived safely at Tete, a Portuguese station on the Zambezi.—"Route between Kustenjé and the Danube," by Capt. Spratt. Capt. Spratt's paper describes the port of Kustenjé and the adjacent parts of the coast, as well as the route across the isthmus to the Danube, by way of the Karasu lakes. Capt. Spratt alludes to a proposal which has been frequently made to form a canal, through which the Danube might flow in a direct line to the Black Sea at Kustenjé, instead of through its present circuitous channel. He regards the formation of any canal across the isthmus as very improbable, and questions its permanent practicability. He also shews that the idea of the Danube ever having flowed across the isthmus is entirely erroneous.—In his paper "On the Landfall of Columbus," Capt. Becher goes far to prove the incorrectness of the views hitherto maintained upon this subject by Navarrete, Washington Irving, and others. Capt. Becher's opinions are about to be published in a work by him on this question.—The Secretary next read a letter from Capt. Stokes, R.N., communicating the opinion of Capt. Richards on the expediency of despatching at once a vessel in search of the relics of the Erebus and Terror. Capt. Richards, whose experience in Arctic travelling is so well known, says, "I think either of three routes might be adopted, viz., one to King William Land, by Behring Straits, as proposed by Capt. Collinson; another through Hudson Strait to Repulse Bay; and a third through Lancaster Sound to Peel Channel, or Prince Regent Inlet. To the last I decidedly give the preference, for the following reason. No vessel has reached so far as Capt. Collinson's farthest in one season; and to do it in two would expend the resources and render the people unfit for searching by sledges, the only method. The plan, then, would be to select a screw vessel of convenient size, and fortify her. She would have a complement of seventy men, and be provisioned for two years. I would require no tender or second vessel. She would proceed down Peel Channel as far as possible; but should Peel Channel be impracticable (which I do not believe), then put the ship in the neighbourhood of Brentford Bay in Prince Regent Inlet. Once in a berth for winter, commence your travelling operations. Much can be done in the same autumn, but the great journeys must be taken in the following spring. Both sides of Peel Channel, as high as King William Land and Gateshead Island, must be explored. If the ships or their wrecks are not found there—and I think they will be—continue the search up both sides of King William Land to Montreal Island, at the embouchure of the Great Fish River. Another portion will yet remain to be examined. Between Osborn's and Wynnatt's farthest, there is a space of sixty miles. This may be a strait, and may communicate with the head of Peel Channel, making of Prince of Wales' Land an island. It is possible that Franklin may have passed to the south-west of Cape Walker with his vessels, and be blocked up here. The exploration of these lines of coast by sledges

could, I believe, be satisfactorily done by the force I have named; and there is a conviction in my mind, amounting to certainty, that the fate of Franklin would be solved, and the remains of his ships be found."—A memorial to Lord Palmerston, which we print at length in another column, was read by Sir Roderick Murchison.—It was announced that Mr. Wallace had returned to Singapore from his expedition to Borneo, and was preparing to visit Celebes, where he hoped to explore portions of that island hitherto unknown, as well as others of the Molucca group. At the request of the Council, Mr. Wallace has been furnished, through the kindness of Lord Clarendon, with letters of introduction from the Governors of Holland and of Spain to the authorities of their different colonies in the East.—The Chairman announced the probability of the departure of the expedition under Capt. Burton for Eastern Africa.

GEOLOGICAL.—June 4.—Col. Portlock, V.P., in the chair.—E. P. Wilkins, Esq., was elected a Fellow.—"Notice of the Keuper Sandstone and its Fossils found at Leicester," by J. Plant, Esq.—"Remarks on the Keuper of Warwickshire," by the Rev. P. B. Brodie.—"On a New Genus of Cephalopoda, *Diploceras (Orthoceras bisiphonatum of Sowerby)*," by J. W. Salter, Esq.—"On an Orthoceras from China," by S. P. Woodward, Esq.—"On Trap-Dykes intersecting Syenite in the Malvern Hills, Worcestershire," by the Rev. W. S. Symonds.—"On the Movement of Land in the South Sea Islands," by G. Sawkins, Esq.—"On the Possible Origin of Veins of Gold in Quartz and other Rocks," by L. L. B. Ibbetson, Esq.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—June 19.—J. Hunter, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—Dr. Pantaleoni, of Rome, and M. Charles Remusat were elected Honorary Members, and Dr. Charles Hood and Mr. Richard Cull were elected Fellows.—Mr. Mayer exhibited a large collection of early clocks and watches.—The Treasurer exhibited an original picture of a "Deer Hunter in his Cap and Jack," painted by Byng.—Mr. Pettigrew read a communication on an unrecorded document in his possession, being a contract entered into between Ferdinand and Isabella, King and Queen of Castile and Leon, and Ferdinand, King of Sicily, for the marriage of Isabella, eldest daughter of Ferdinand and Isabella, with Ferdinand, Prince of Capua, dated May 21, 1476.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.
THURS. Zoological, 3.—General.
SAT. Asiatic, 2.

FINE ARTS

INDIAN COURT AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

The great peninsula that stretches from Cape Comorin to Tibet, with its sixty millions or thereabouts of inhabitants, has hitherto been unrepresented in this palace of universal Art.

The land of the Ganges and the Burrampoore, of palm-tree and sugar-cane, has at last returned a member to this assembly of nations,—and here "old Indians" may roam about for hours and talk their fill of *lac* and *kincob*, and "mohur and hookabahad," and their friend

the Begum of Travancore,

Who gave the best tiffins in Bangalore.

The land whose stones are diamonds and whose very weeds are spice plants has always had a strange charm to the English mind. From children we are accustomed to hear of the widow devoting herself to the flame, and of the mountain car that crushes its road over the prostrate pilgrims,—of dead Fakirs floating down the Ganges, and of saints who for a vow crawl from Calcutta to Benares. Legends of cruel Rajahs, of deadly tiger hunts, of the storming of mountain forts, of the wily Thugs, with their nooses and scarfs, are current in most families, handed down traditionally from the mouth of dead Nobobs who left us their guineas and curry-powder.

To those who pine for rupees the Museum of the India House, fuller and more complete, will have attractions with which the Sydenham collection, small and as yet rather incongruous and congl-

the force in my fate of his Masterston, Ann, was an Singa as pre-explore as well request furnished, with elements of their man an- of the Africa.

V.P., selected a one and went, Esq. 'Wondersire,' by genus of sonatum 'On an d, Esq. in the W. S. in the 1.—'On Quartz sq.

J. Hun- tateleoni, elected good and — Mr. — Mr. only clocks the original 'Old Jack,' a com- in his between of Cas- cily, for of Fer- Prince of

ACE. from Cape or there- unpre- mpoorer, returned and here and talk shur and

d whose strange children we bring herself it crushes and Fakirs who for a legends of storming with their families, of dead powder. um of the will have collection, d conglom-

erate, may not attempt to compete. There the very hot sand of the Coromandel coast and the black loam of the Oude maize plots seem still clinging to the velvet saddles and the gilded stirrups;—here we see mere show goods, hastily put together without unity and without effect. There almost each coloured book of Persia or strange toy invented to please a Sultan has an historical interest;—here the silk stuffs, and the weapons, and the models are mere objects, lent by private persons, and coming together as they may to delight the eye. In the India House, we think of Arungzebe and Tamerlane,—seem to hear the monsoon bursting, wild beast like, through the mango trees, or listen to the loud rushing of the continuous rains;—here, we wander through an Eastern shop, and think only of our old friend who died at Bundelcund, the hot scent of his favourite curries rising again gratefully to our sense, as we remember his capital story of the Banyan of Allahabad.

The first case in the Indian room is filled with carvings and stuffs woven with silk and gold. There are beautiful desks enriched with ebony and ivory, and prismatic with elaborate geometrizations of white and green and black, pieced with tender touch and exquisite minuteness, toiled at by pliant, dusky fingers, with a thermometer at 95° in the shade. Then there are square coffers of the pale, dusk, cinnamon-coloured sandal wood, cut with shivering haste in a forest full of tigers, and curiously chiselled and shaped by muslin-turbaned handcraftsmen, who use their feet and hands quite indiscriminately,—and a rich scent as of the Magi's offering is breathed forth perpetually by a costly casket, guarded by its rows of Vishnus and Krishnas, with strange tiaras and redundant number of arms. From Cashmere to Ceylon,—from the rose plains of Persia and the sandy tulip tracts of Ghulistan to the thick groves of the spice island,—no more precious example of man's labour has been seen than here. As contrast to fretted wood-work is a desk of rough buffalo's horn, wonderfully solid and English, and well lined with small ivory drawers that give colour and contrast. Above these stream down the rich folds of Indian shawls and robes, covered with marvels of scrolls and flourished ornaments of glittering gold thread, woven with elaborate and almost fatiguing splendour, yet subdued in colour and worthy to wrap a queen. These twinnings of gold thread are not flower-leaved like the Greek ornaments, or cross-barred like the Highlander's and the Saxon's, nor heraldic like the middle-age tabards, nor pictured like the Mexican robes. They follow a regular and complicated convention of beautiful and Oriental involution. Here, too, is the doublet of an Indian chief, studded with small gold bosses and exquisitely yet simply adorned. How rare and commendable simplicity is in Oriental Art, no one can doubt who has ever spent an hour even in a small collection like this.

The Persian stand is highly deserving attention; for the Persian language is the Italian of the East—the language fitted for poets and lovers,—and the Persians' religion is purer and their art more subtle and refined than that of the rice-eaters of Bengal, or of those fierce infanticides, the Rajpoots. Here are the Kuzzilbashes' rough, black, woollen caps, with the handkerchiefs, like red flowers, cropping out at the top. On this side, we see a small, steel helmet, finely shaped as a chalice, with its steel dagger and spike, and the two tubes for the white-heron feathers, to mark the Shah; within, perhaps, finely-graved sentences from the Zend Avesta, to guard the wearer from axe and sword. This steel cap looks delicate as crystal; but it has endured without dinting the crush of the ribbed mace and the trenchant fury of the scimitar. Pass on, and we come to feather tippets, woven in jungles, with spoils torn from the bird of Paradise's breast and the paroquet's wing. With choice taste the instinct of these hunters has banded and vandyked the crimson and the golds into such soft, downy splendour as might delight the eye of a painter.

Further on we trace the progress of Indian art, from the first to the tenth century of our era, by the curious frescoes, copied from the caves of Ajunta, and representing the great proselytizing wars between the Siva worshippers and the fol-

lowers of that great reformer, Budha. As the earliest are the best, it would seem that Indian Art is of extreme antiquity. In all the battles there are crowds of elephants and hosts of stiff nobles and supplicating prisoners. The colour is heavy and hard, and the drawing and composition are singularly barbarous. For their sculpture, we cannot say much. Bulabudha, Juggernaut's eldest brother, or brother-in-law, for we are not clear about the relationship, is a hideous puppet, with a flat head and enormous eyes, like those of a demon in a pantomime. The traditional representation of this god must have been perpetuated, unaltered from religious conventions; just as Greek sculptors went on for centuries giving Minerva a wig and Diana a stiff, unmeaning smile, because Daedalus had done so. The smaller idols,—such as those of Krishna, or of the goddesses, his cousins,—are generally represented cross-legged; their faces remarkable for small eyes and large lips; the proportions observed, but the anatomy unheeded. Still more grotesque and rude is the gilt image of the goddess, taken from a Burmese temple. The recumbent body is a mere block, and the face very coarsely fashioned, much uglier than that of the Mexican god, Tezcatlipuk, who, in comparison, is a very rose of beauty.

About Indian Art, even in its finest forms, as in the gold stuff and the ivory carving, there is a feeling that it is the work of slaves, who dare not invent and who work for a luxurious master. The energy of the workman's mind has been thrown into mechanism by his repetition. He can go on labyrinthing miles of gold thread into glittering webs of geometrical fancy, but he cannot sit down and create a square inch for himself. He cuts out elephants and knights and horses and towers for royal chessmen, or shaves pith into elaborate costumed figures full of life and character, but he cannot record his daily observations in painting even like the Chinese. In cold countries they cut stone into rough saints;—in warmer countries bright marble into saintly gods;—in regions shot through with vertical sunbeams they only fashion ivory into mechanical and minute forms. It is too hot to think and to work. India has its drowsy mystics who meditate, but do not create; it has dramatists who abuse, but do not teach. Rice-eaters build pagodas of crockery, and beef-eaters hollow the rock into cathedrals. Rice-eaters are born to be the servants of the beef-eater, just as the children of Ham are doomed to become subject to the children of Japhet. As the plant is a lower form of life than the animal that devours it, so is the plant-eater lower than the animal-eater. The more blood, the hotter heart,—the stronger heart, the fuller brain,—the fuller brain, the more power, corporally and mentally, morally and intellectually.

For the timid and elaborate delicacies of Indian Art, we must direct attention to the case of Indian miniatures, quite as good as the coloured mosaics of Rome or Florence, at least as to landscape, though not as to face. The touch seems delicate and firm, and the colour very bright and pure. The visitor will also examine with interest the well-executed series of drawings illustrating Hindoo social life; with the Beebee, or lady, and the Choukeedar, or guard, the washerwoman, the peasant, the artisan, and the Brahmin, the Parsee servant who will not snuff out a candle, and the Vishnu worshipper who will not use a hog brush. Amongst other relics of Hindoo Art we should mention the curious pictorial certificate which is presented to the pilgrim who has accomplished the great Juggernaut pilgrimage (by the by, a model of the blood-stained car is also here), and which he hangs up in his hut, just as the Englishman used to do his palm-branch. There are also his rude Penates, little daubs of a kneeling figure holding a snake or wielding a sword. The lower races have always feared the Divinity, the higher love him—the one looks at man's suffering, the other at man's joys—the one at the past, the other more at the future.

Amongst other miscellaneous objects of interest here are temple-lamps, bells with which they call their idols to their meals, sandals held on by pegs between the toes, gongs, silver bells, and tom-toms,

Here, also, are long matchlocks and rows of strong spears and odd-shaped wood knives. There are maces and all varieties of knives, swords, and daggers, with strange, awkward handles and as many shapes as so many surgical instruments. Here is a model of a bungalow or country house, set in a yellow glass-case, which gives it a torrid aspect. There are the broad sloping tile-roofs, and the shady verandahs, and the airy rooms, and the baths and the punkahs, and the snake-charmer, and what-not. There is a strange furniture-brush made out of a cocoa-nut cut in half, and a model of the simple tomb in the Taj Mahal; and there are immense Manilla hats large as a summer-house roof, such as the native women wear who are regardless of appearances; and there are marble tables, inlaid with squares of lapis-lazuli and cornelian, and models of temples and Indian gateways, and quail-traps, and red and blue boots such as they use on the azalea slopes of the Himalaya, and slips of woods which are Indian MSS., not to forget the gilt standard of a Burmese monastery.

An interesting part of the gallery also contains curiosities from Borneo:—blow-pipes, and arrows smeared at the end with poison, and a knife and block used for human sacrifices at Orissa. And there are caps curiously ornamented with birds' beaks and shells; and from this we pass by easy transit to the Fiji Islanders, with their bunch of shavings round their waist, and their war-clubs like huge chocolate-frothers.

Another part of the collection is devoted to Chinese curiosities, furniture, a perfect network of carved leaf and tendrils, vases and bowls of the richest porcelain, fit for the Brother of the Sun and Moon himself, huge umbrellas, double-handed swords, rattan helmets, and cumbersome sabots. There are also two portraits of Chinese actresses, delicately painted, but flat, and wanting relief; and a nest of ivory balls, one inside the other, contrived in the way that astonishes all who do not know the skill of the Chinese joiner.

There is also a collection of paintings showing the various processes of the tea trade:—the picking, the drying, the sorting, and the delivery to the English agent. The style is clean and simple, but tame and uninventive. Several scenes from Chinese plays follow, and a series of drawings representing the progress of an industrious man from the time he is first shaved till he becomes a high-class Mandarin of the blue or the white button.

We all of us owe much to the willow-pattern plate for an impression of Chinese life. The one scene of a Chinese novel that it pourtrays carries you far into the Chinese world:—go where you will there is the same sort of bridge, and the same wooden paling, and the same small eyes and fat cheeks, and loose silk gowns, only enlivened by more peacock's feathers, more small feet, more Tartar cheek-bones, and formal gardens. The Hindoo street-sweeper, who sells objectionable songs in mistake for tracts, and who after all is a Mohammedan, carries us further into the East than all the 'Lalla Rookhs' ever warbled. The eye is a quick scholar, and an hour's stroll in this Indian Court will teach more than many books. A man who catches a fever and comes here in a suit of muslin might almost fancy himself listening to the surf at Madras,—a sensation which is caused by the low pulsating murmurs of the crowds that fill the Courts below—who quote Byron at the foot of the Apollo, or beneath the broad shadow of the flying bulls rehearse the deeds of Sennacherib.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—A site, excellent in all respects, has been found for the Great Exhibition of Art-Treasures in Manchester, and a design for the edifice adopted. The site is on the south-west of the city, in the suburb of Hulme, and within two miles or so of the Exchange. Freedom from smoke and dust, and facility of access, are secured in this selection. A large sum, placed at the disposal of the Committee by the Bank of England—on the security of the Guarantee Fund, which already reaches 70,000/-—enables the managers to commence immediate operations. Mr. Young, who is building the Art

Museum at Kensington Gore, has gained the first honours in the competition of designs, and a provisional contract has been signed by him to complete the building by New Year's Day for £24,500. The structure, unless important changes are introduced while it is in progress, will cover ground space of 15,200 square yards, or rather more than three acres; and will afford additional room by the construction of internal galleries. In deciding upon the architectural character which it should assume, the Committee had under consideration about thirty sets of plans submitted by artists. The building will be for the most part constructed of cast and corrugated iron, glass being employed only in the centre of each compartment of the roof. The whole interior will be lined with wood, and the end of the building, which has been chosen for the grand entrance, will be of ornamental brick-work. The extreme length of the building will be 704 feet, and the extreme breadth 200 feet. Compared against such edifices as the Crystal Palace it will be a small structure: yet it may contain an enormous and most costly collection of works of Art,—works which lie in small compass.

Mr. Bartlett's picture of 'The Visit of the Queen and Royal Family to the Wounded Crimean Soldiers at Brompton Hospital' is now on exhibition in Piccadilly. It is a work of minute truth and fidelity, the subject well treated, and the painting careful throughout. The Queen, dressed very gracefully in blue, attended by Prince Albert, whose broad ribbon peeps over the lap of his breast coat, two of the Princes, the Duke of Cambridge, Lord Hardinge, and several Ladies in waiting, is standing by the bed of a wounded soldier and listening to the story of his comrade, who is seated on the side of the pallet. The expression of the speaker's head is excellent. It is at once courteous and deprecating, full of all manly self-respect, but yet bent in homage to the sympathizing woman and the Queen. The artist, too, has well conveyed the pleasure of the poor pale sunken face on the pillow, too weak to move, but yet anxious to convey a sense of heartfelt respect. This is the portrait of a brave fellow, who ran on the stump of a shattered leg all through the valley of Balaklava to escape certain death from the Russian sabres. Nothing but despair could have goaded him on, and yet at that time death seemed awaiting him at both ends,—death at home from exhaustion,—death with the Russians from the hot bullet;—but he preferred to bleed to death among friends,—and he was saved. A little further on are two convalescents discussing the visit, and admiring the tenderness and kindness of the Queen, and those words which did more than medicine. On the other side—drawn up stiffly as if for the military salute—is another bearded veteran, who left his arm among the Muscovites, but took from them a dozen lives to balance the account. The drawbacks to the picture are, the want of success of the artist in rendering flesh bronzed by exposure to wind and snow:—for this he makes bruised and unnatural; a defect which may be lost in engraving. From over-softening, too, the features of his faces, especially the Queen's, melt into each other, instead of standing out in strong relief. This is a fault worse than hardness, because it gives a look of flimsiness and vagueness. The effect, however, of daylight is well expressed, and the bare whitewashed room is turned to excellent use as a background. The cross-lined orange bed-quilt and the pink handkerchief—all painted from Nature—are quite Pre-Raphaelite, in their fidelity. The blue great-coat and red cap of the spokesmen form a pleasing piece of colour, and the courtiers look gentlemen, which they do not always do in such task-work pictures. The event was worth recording, and will hold its place in history. Napoleon visited his sick workmen, ostentatiously conscious that he was pleasing France, winning the soldiers, alluring more recruits, astonishing Europe, and performing a chapter of his biography; but Victoria visited these mutilated men, not as a Queen but as a tender-hearted woman, who had a heart to feel for suffering, and especially for that of those who had fought to save her and her realm,—not for ambition, but for duty. It has been the peculiar lot of women to alleviate the

miseries of this war,—and as they were the first to suffer from its desolations, they were the first to attempt to lessen its calamities. Every blow that is struck in war reaches some woman's heart,—nor can a woman, even when wearing a crown, appear more beautiful or majestic than when coming as a ministering angel to remove or assuage the sufferings that scourge humanity.

Paul Delaroche has just finished his new picture of the Girondins. The scene represents the twenty accused at the moment when the sentence of death is read to them. The twenty-first, Valazé, has killed himself, and his body is carried away by the executioner's men in order to be dragged behind his fellow-sufferers to the scaffold. The principal group comprises Vergniaud, Brisot, and Gensonné standing in the foreground. Young Lasource, staring fixedly on the floor, is seated at some distance. Fauchet, Boyer, Fonfrède, and a few more sit at a table in the background. On the right hand side stands the *commissaire*, calling out the names of the victims, and at his side the jailer. The picture is of small dimensions, but makes a grand impression by its composition, as well as by its execution. The general effect is treated with great art, and the character of the heads of the Girondins is well hit, and rendered with considerable delicacy. The picture is the property of M. Benoit Fould, the banker.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

MUSICAL UNION.—EIGHTH and LAST MATINÉE.—With a Recital of Beethoven's Quartet, flat, 3-4; Mozart's First Piano-Sonata, in C, Op. 2, Handel's Suite, Op. No. 10, E flat, Beethoven. Solo Pianoforte, &c. &c. Executants: Sivori, Cooper, Goffrie, Plati, and Halle. Members declining Subscription for 1857, or having Nominations, are requested to notify the same to J. ELLA, Director.

MR. CHARLES HALLE begs to announce that the SECOND PIANOFORTE RECITAL of the Second Series will take place at his Residence, 47, Bryanstone Square, on THURSDAY, July 3. To commence at Three o'clock.—Tickets, 10s. 6d. each, to be had of Mr. Halle, and at Cramer & Beale's, 201, Regent Street.

THE BRONSKI FAMILY—Beethoven Room, 76, Harley Street.—The celebrated JUVENILE INSTRUMENTALISTS from Prague, who aped with such success at the Italian Opera, Pianoforte Recital, in the Hall of the Royal Cavalry TAKING-UP, on Monday, June 23; Wednesday, July 2, and Friday, July 4, at Three o'clock.—Tickets, 2s. 6d.; Reserved Seats, &c.; R. W. Olivier, 19, Old Bond Street, and at the Rooms, 76, Harley Street.

ST. MARTIN'S HALL.—SIXTEENTH and LAST CONCERT THIS SEASON, under the direction of Mr. John Hullah, on WEDNESDAY, July 2, when will be performed Haydn's CREATION, &c. Vocalists: Madame Riedersdorf, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Thomas. Tickets, 1s., 2s., 2s. 6d.; Stalls, &c. Commence at 8 o'clock.

CHARLES ENDESSOHN has the honour to announce to the Nobility their Patrons, and the Public, that her GRAND ORCHESTRAL CONCERT will take place (under the highest patronage) on the NIGHT OF FRIDAY, July 4. Mr. Balfe has kindly consented on this occasion to accompany the Vocal Music. The Band, which will complete in all its departments, will be conducted by Mr. Charles Enderssohn, Performers of both His Majesty's Theatre and of the Royal Italian Opera. Conductor, Mr. Frank Mori. Leader, Mr. Thirwall. Principal Vocal Performers: Madame Viardot Garcia, Miss Dolby, and Madame Enderssohn; Herr Reichards and Mr. Thomas. Instrumental Artists: Mr. Hilliard, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Lister, Mr. C. H. H. Smith. Reserved Seats, &c.; Unreserved Seats, &c. Commence at 8 o'clock. All the Tickets issued for the Concert announced for the Evening of Monday, June 16, will be available. Tickets may be obtained at all the Musicians and Libraries; also of Mr. Hargrave Jennings, 190, Pall Mall; and the residence of Madame Enderssohn, &c. Walton Villas, Brompton.

Mrs ARABELLA GODDARD will perform W. H. HOLMES'S Pianoforte Romance, 'Whispering Music,' at W. H. HOLMES'S THIRD PIANOFORTE CONCERT, WEDNESDAY MORNING, at the Haymarket Theatre, Two o'clock. Miss Holmes, &c. Mr. Hilliard will also perform in a Duo with Madame Clara Schumann; Carnival Romance and Schumannian. Madame Schumann; Other eminent talent, vocal and instrumental, will also assist. Full Programmes—Tickets, 6s., reserved, of W. H. Holmes, 36, Beaumont Street, Marylebone.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—The sixth and last Philharmonic Concert for 1856 was held in presence of Her Majesty. Dr. Schumann's 'Paradise and the Peri' was performed on the occasion,—Madame Goldschmidt taking the principal soprano part. Such advantage and protection afforded to such a work—it's own ambitious scale—and the pretensions put forward on behalf of its composer, render some detail inevitable; though to return to the subject, after having years ago discussed the composition, and again in 1855, when it was performed at Düsseldorf [Athen. No. 1440], is an ungrateful task. Familiarity with this *Cantata* only confirms and increases our disapproval of it—in place of reconciling us to the sterility of thought, unloveliness of form, crudity of colour, and disregard of the poet's meaning, which from first to last it displays. Like other so-called innovators, Dr. Schumann is essentially as trivial in idea and as poor in resource as the most intolerable of the "Philistines." How else

can we explain his capricious distribution of Moore's text? Sometimes his narration (as in the plague scene, No. 14) is carried on by couplets as conventional as those of the commonest French opera divided betwixt two voices. In No. 21, when the text is as redolent of perfume, and warm with Oriental glory, as is Moore's description of the light of eve, which

reposes

On Syria's land of roses,—

we are treated by the German transcendentalist to a ballad in a sharp minor key, for a baritone, as grim as the most grim murder-lied ever written concerning

The little White Woman who deals in blood, or other such malignant sprite. In other passages we get on by aid of a heavy psalmody, which is neither air nor recitative. The phrases may be symmetrical, but the ideas are meagre, and the dissonances of the bad grammar in which they are conveyed, are more poignant than pleasing. The *Peri's* outset (in which the marking passage, six times repeated, belongs to Mendelssohn, and not to Dr. Schumann), the thirteen bars for her which intervene in No. 9, on the German words—

Sei dies mein Geschenk,

and the *Adagio* with piano chorus, No. 17, closing the second act (the best number in the *Cantata*), amount to her only grateful occupation throughout this fatiguing part. Her restless air, No. 20, and the final shrieks, No. 26, with which she bombs and breaks into Paradise—not melts the "crystal bar"—could hardly be more repulsively crude in *cantilena* than they are. Nor have they any atoning character to distinguish them from the *solo* of the maiden who comforts the plague-stricken youth (No. 15),—which is an *allegro* according to the commonest German pattern, wrought up a score of times by Dr. Spohr and Herr Marschner. The *Musette* Chorus of Hours, No. 18, is as trivial as if it had been planned for the *Jardin Turc*,—but trivial without prettiness. The attractive orchestral prelude to the Quartett No. 13, was written before, and better written, in Beethoven's 'Prisoners' Chorus.' The vocal wrougth up a score of times by Dr. Spohr and Herr Marschner. The *Musette* Chorus of Hours, No. 18, is as trivial as if it had been planned for the *Jardin Turc*,—but trivial without prettiness. The attractive orchestral prelude to the Quartett No. 13, was written before, and better written, in Beethoven's 'Prisoners' Chorus.' The vocal ordinance of the parts to be sung is, throughout, desperate, in disregard of what is attainable by every voice called on. To sum up—this *Cantata* is by far the least satisfactory composition of pretension which has been presented at the *Philharmonic Concerts*, in our remembrance. We are sorry thus to speak of the solitary effort made during the past season by this dwindling Society. The apology, it is said, may have lain in a deference to the choice of the work by Madame Goldschmidt.—Should this be urged, the precedent of submitting counsel and research, during an entire season, on the part of a great instrumental Society, to the inclinations of a vocalist, is a dangerous one. Persons who look forward must see to what manner of collapse the excitement attendant on the whole business renders those who have yielded to it liable.

The performance of 'Paradise' was not good. Madame Goldschmidt's voice was more fatigued and unequal than we have heretofore heard it; and thus she was unable to fight through the part, which demands power in the lower register, with her usual success. The honours of the evening are due to Madame Weiss; who worked out every note of her harassing music with a tone and a firmness which must raise her in public estimation. Mrs. Lockey, as *contralto*, had to transpose many of her passages,—Mr. Benson, as principal tenor, so many of his, that all effect was lost. Indeed, he seemed aware of the fact at an early stage of the performance, and retired into nullity thereupon. The other principal singers were Messrs. Montem Smith and Lawler. Neither chorus nor orchestra was at ease. Professor Bennett must have been more puzzled than complimented by one feature of this strange performance,—the presence in the orchestra of Madame Schumann, who guided the conductor, and gave the *tempo* Philharmonic to the solo singers. The want of taste of the Directors in requesting (or allowing) this, amounts to want of feeling for an artist, a stranger, and a woman, who is here under circumstances claiming for her the tenderest care and the most hospitable shelter.

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LYCEUM THEATRE.—'Pia dei Tolomei.'—In Madame Ristori's third part, *Pia dei Tolomei*, as heroine of Signor Marenco's tragedy, she planted her foot for the first time on her native soil,—the Italian actress appearing in an Italian play on an Italian subject. The innocent and noble Lady "done to death" in the poisonous air of the Maremma, by her jealous lord, is a companion-figure to the white Lady of the *Strada della Morte* shut out, when she wandered home from the tomb, by her gloomy and affrighted husband. In point of character, there is a strange monotony in these Italian legends. The husband may be a shade more or less cruel, the wife a beam more or less angelic, the lover a trifle more or less self-sacrificing or selfish, the villain be diabolical to the last, or remorseful—but in all these violent stories we meet simply with husband, wife, lover, and villain, again and again; and it is only a Shakespeare who shall, out of such known types, fashion such diversities as a *Leontes* or an *Othello*, an *Imogen* or a *Desdemona*, an *Iachimo* or an *Iago*. But the scene in which Signor Marenco's tragedy is laid, to a certain degree, tinges these old materials with a peculiar colour. The form of revenge chosen by the abused husband is one that appeals powerfully to the imagination:—more so, we fancy, than any brewage or "leperous distilment" which cauldron or crucible can furnish,—more, even, than the Borgia ring or the manna of St. Nicholas of Bari. Signor Marenco might have availed himself of this more largely. He has dwelt on the feud which separated *Pia* from her family,—and thus gave to Ugo the power of racking the chaste Lady, who will not listen to his vows, and of practising on her husband. But the Poet might, perhaps, earlier in his story, have indicated the terror within the circle of which Intrigue, and Jealousy, and Revenge draw their victim more and more closely as the play goes on. The very broad lands and rich possessions of the ill-starred Lady's stern lord might, from the first, have been made to loom like a destiny menacing her happiness, if the Maremma tale had been worked out by a Northern dramatist. Signor Marenco has treated it in a simpler, more impulsive, more inconsequent, more Southern fashion. His play, though a skeleton play, is not altogether a bad one,—better, by many a scene, than one of those desperate pieces of ingenuity in which every entrance and exit, smallest incident, and lightest word are so weighed, and balanced, and chiselled, and dovetailed, that life and passion are left with no room and verge in the web; and fineness of work supersedes originality of character and largeness of design.—In Act the First is indicated the feud between family and family, which gives *Pia* a stake deeper than ordinary in the chances of battle. To this follows the approach of the tempter, after her lord's departure; his repulse, his vow of vengeance.—Act the Second is devoted to the husband's credulity, and the stratagem practised on the innocent Lady by her maligner, which proves her ruin.—The third is the greatest Act of the play, showing the Lady brought into her prison-house, there acquainted with her doom,—and when she declares that he whom she met in secret with visor down was her brother,—struck down with the fact that Rinaldo had seen that brother die on the battle-field, and with the accusation, which she cannot disprove, that she is lying to save her paramour. Her jealous lord leaves her to perish slowly in the poisoned air of the Maremma dungeon. In the first horror of this discovery Ugo appears again,—taunts her with his vengeance, threatens her with his power, tempts her to escape with him to life and liberty,—and is driven forth by her contempt. This Act is one of Madame Ristori's masterpieces. The denouncing finger with which she recognizes to herself the source of her husband's suspicions when they are made clear to her—the sudden radiant smile, almost girlish in its buoyancy of spirit, with which she listens and triumphs over his credulity, by telling him whom it was she had met—the revulsion of agony when he dispels this illusion by assuring her of her brother's death in battle—her

helpless clinging despair when he tears from her the wedding-ring, leaves her, and bars her in to face slow Death—the entire subsequent scene with the fiend, who comes to scoff and retires in shame—are admirable, full of contrasts the most sudden, of effects rare in their delicacy, all—for this is the peculiarity of Madame Ristori's style, if style it be—so harmonized by beauty in gesture, melody in tone, and truth of feeling, that it is only on after-thought that the range of emotion we have traversed under her guidance is made clear to us.—Act the Fourth (to resume our sketch of the play) is the weakest, showing us the husband called to a reckoning by the father of *Pia*, and disabused by the voluntary confession of her slanderer in the hour of his death.—The motto to Act the Fifth (did Signor Marenco adopt M. Hugo's fashion by ticketing his Acts) might be "*Too late*,"—being devoted to the fatal agony of the victim and her reconciliation with her too credulous lord. A touch of tenderness is given to the early portion of the scene by the interview between *Pia* and a peasant woman of the Maremma;—it might otherwise grow intolerably oppressive, even when treated with such a thorough mastery as it is by the Italian actress. To every appeal of the kind (as was said when the last scenes of *La Traviata* were spoken of) we are on principle averse; but we have never seen the ghastliness of lingering Death made so little disgusting, with all its intense fearfulness, as by Madame Ristori. The glazing eye—the dulled ear scarce able to receive tidings, because confused with strange sounds—the quivering limbs—the voice hoarse with tones of the grave—the eager yearning to forgive and be forgiven when nothing is left to Life but one last moment of love—are before us as we write like so many realities, terrible indeed, but tender to the last; with their tenderness, recalling those few wondrous farewell words of our own old dramatist:—

Cover her face: mine eyes dazzle.
She died young!

—As postscript, and in justice, we must say that Madame Ristori was better seconded in *'Pia'* by her comrades than in either of her former plays.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC Gossip.—The last appearance of Mlle. Jenny Ney for the season took place at the *Lyceum Theatre* on Saturday last. Signor Neri-Baraldo, a new tenor, will shortly, we hear, make his appearance there.—We hear with regret that the state of Signor Lablache's health will prevent his visiting London this season.—A contemporary brings us a step nearer a new Opera House, by announcing that Messrs. Fox & Henderson have contracted to deliver a new Covent Garden Theatre, on the site of the old one, in six months.

By way of indicating another of the multiform channels through which music in England just now rushes, (the verb not being hyperbolical) let us mention that the Sacred Concerts of the Ecclesiastical Motett Society are in progress.

The Cambridge University "bill of fare" for the week to come announces that after the sermon at St. Mary's to-morrow morning, an anthem by Prof. W. S. Bennett will be performed, "as an exercise for the degree of Doctor in Music."

The news of the week from Paris is not very important. The late calamity of Deluge, which has fallen on France, is calling out, on every side, the beneficence of actors, singers, musicians;—but when did this ever fail want and destitution?—M. Berlioz has been elected by the Académie des Beaux Arts, as successor to M. Adolphe Adam.—Madame Marcolini, an Italian songstress, is announced as engaged at the *Grand Opéra*, which seems to have become a theatre of capricious experiment, not of wise experience; and month by month to be more and more falling from its old proud place at the head of the musical theatres of Europe. The Mass of Pope Marcellus, by Palestrina, was advertised for St. Peter's day, at the Church of Saint-Sulpice, to be sung there by two hundred and fifty voices.—Among other music performed at the baptism of the fourth prince of the Napoleon line, was a portion of the *Te Deum* of Lesueur,—a composer whose music is well worth inquiring after.

Mr. Lover has forwarded to us a letter, we presume for publication, which we give with the omission of one or two needless lines:—

Two consecutive weekly notices of me in your publications of the 14th and 21st inst. oblige me to address you; it is with great reluctance I thus occupy time that might be more pleasantly employed by me and you and the readers of the *Athenæum*, but self-defence compels me. On the 14th appears the following:—"Mr. Lover, we apprehend, comes by some of his melodies as Moore and Haynes Bayly—not to speak of the Bérats and Nadads across the water—came by theirs. Some one good turn (to adapt the well-known proverb) suggests another; and the phrase of some wandering peasant's ditty, which has been caught on the banks of Blackwater or Shannon, or in that square—'Muryan Squeer'—where Col. O'Dowd courted Mrs. Major O'Dowd, being imperfectly remembered, comes out, after a lapse of years, completed and newly dressed, as 'The Angel's Whisper,' or 'The Low-backed Car,' or 'The Snow,' or other popular favourite." This I passed over, unanswered, at the time it appeared, supposing it more accidentally, than intentionally, disparaging—looking at it as the inevitable manner of your musical critic,—rather than supposing it to be ill-naturedly levelled against me; but in your impression of the 21st this criticism is followed up by this notice:—"Mr. Lover's 'Low-backed Car' has been into Court again; and he has established his right in the song, with a forty-shilling verdict, against those who have attempted to interfere with it, on the ground of the song having been also published in America. In the course of his evidence, Mr. Lover naturally and honourably deposed to the source whence he derived his airs; his deposition being so identical with our speculation of last week [ante, p. 752], that we may call attention to the testimony." From the foregoing, it is evident the criticism of the 14th was *purposely* written to underrate and discredit me; being referred to with self-complacency as evidence of critical acumen, and attention called to "the testimony." But that testimony your critic falsifies; he says, "Mr. Lover naturally and honourably deposed to the source whence he derived his airs," his deposition being identical with our speculation of last week." Here is a sweeping assertion in the plural—"his airs." Now I only deposed to the air of one song, yet my own "honourable" testimony to one is ventuously perverted to rob me of all, and my honour into the bargain, —for I hold picking and stealing to be quite as dishonorable in literature or musical composition as in other things, though not legally punishable. I beg to notice here, moreover, that the air in question (that of 'The Low-backed Car') I never claimed, as a reference to the song will show. There are but three of my most popular songs of which the music is not my own,—namely, 'The Angel's Whisper,' 'Rory O'More,' and 'The Low-backed Car.' All the rest (far the greatest number) have been a twin birth of words and music; and the twin claim of authorship is publicly made on their title-pages. Yet, in the face of this, it is insinuated I "derive" my airs from other sources than my invention. Let the retrospective gentleman who "calls attention" to this matter (a call I have so readily responded to) look up evidence against me, if he can.—I think he must go farther than the Blackwater or the Shannon to find it,—and neither Col. O'Dowd, nor Mrs. Major O'Dowd, of "Muryan Squeer" (wherever that is) will help him much, I fancy.

I am, &c.
SAMUEL LOVER.

The above is as comical an example of "harmony ill understood" as the annals of music and of musical criticism furnish. There can be no objection that Mr. Lover should be angry at any complimentary and good-natured notice of his songs, if it so please him,—none, that he should be afflicated on being ranked with Moore—who, also, wrote tunes besides words—as a "true Irish melodist,"—on being accused of making "sly, sweet songs," which have become "popular favourites" (the words of the *Athenæum* respecting Mr. Lover). There can be no objection to his not comprehending the passage, "As we have frequent occasion to point out, the number of tunes that GROW is Legion:—the list of the tunes that have been born would be shorter than the alphabet,"—which also occurs in the paragraph of June 14, complained of by Mr. Lover. There can be no objection that he should fail to have followed the speculations, in which we have often indulged, respecting the very limited number of primal melodies that exist (attested by the very notice, ante, pp. 786-7, preceding our second offence, in which are treated the coincidences and unconscious borrowings committed, not by the Lovers, but by the Clementis, Mozarts, Beethovens, Rossinis—of music). Mr. Lover's perversity is droll. However, his note is worth printing as a confession that 'Rory O'More,' 'The Angel's Whisper,' and 'The Low-backed Car,' are not his own. Here, at least, are *airs*—not one air, but three airs. If we were as ill-natured as Mr. Lover assumes that we are,—we might ask, what remains of Mr. Lover's fame as a melodist when the credit of 'Rory O'More,' 'The Low-backed Car,' and 'The Angel's Whisper' is restored to the true owners?

MISCELLANEA

The Historical Cyrus.—At the meeting of the Chronological Institute, on the 23rd of June, Dr. Lee, President, in the chair, Mr. Bosanquet read a paper in explanation of the period of 128 years during which the Medes are said to have reigned in Upper Asia, and of the mode of reconciling this period with that of 150 years, which is the length assigned by Herodotus to the reigns of Deioches, Phraortes, Cyaxares, and Astyages, kings of Media.

"He based his argument upon the date of the eclipse which Xenophon records as having occurred at Larissa, or Nimrud, in the time when the Persians conquered the Medes; and showed from astronomical calculation made by competent authority, according to the most recently improved tables, that the only total eclipse in the neighbourhood of Nimrud during the thirty years of Cyrus's reign fell in the year B.C. 557. This, he observed, was confirmation of the received date of the conquest of Astyages, king of Media, by Cyrus, viz. in the year of the 55th Olympiad = B.C. 560, as stated by Diodorus, Thallus, Castor, Polybius, and Philostratus; and he considered, therefore, that the latter date might be taken as a safe foundation from whence to compute the 128 years of Median dominion. After briefly stating the several different modes proposed by commentators for reconciling the two discordant periods of 128 years and 150 years, upon the review of all which Niebuhr had passed his judgment that they were irreconcileable, and that the passage containing the first figure must be corrupt, he proceeded to show how by counting 128 years upwards from the year B.C. 560 we are led to the year A.D. 668, as the first year of the reign of Deioches; how that Josephus has recorded that the Medes revolted from the Assyrians at the time when Sennacherib invaded Judea, and lost the greater part of his army by pestilence; and how the same year, B.C. 668, is that assigned by Demetrius as the date of the invasion of Judea by Sennacherib. He also referred to the remarkable eclipse, at noon-day, at Jerusalem, in January B.C. 669, which he believed to be the cause of the going back of the shadow ten degrees upon the steps of Ahaz, and as determining with accuracy the time which preceded Sennacherib's attack upon Hesekiah. Mr. Bosanquet next observed, that if Deioches began to reign in B.C. 668, Astyages, who ceased to reign 150 years after, must have died in the year A.D. 539. He then referred to the astronomical and ecclesiastical canons preserved to us by Syneculus, and showed that the king who ceased to reign in the year 539, according to both these authorities, is there said to have borne the title Astyages. This year, B.C. 539, Mr. Bosanquet believes to have been the true traditional date of the death of Astyages: more especially as no ancient authority could have commenced his reign till some years after the date affixed in all antiquity to the eclipse of Thales, viz. B.C. 585; and he considers that it was at a comparatively late date, and by an erroneous identification, affixed to the time of the deposition of Nabonidus, king of Babylon, because that king was conquered by Cyrus, the son of Cambyses and grandson of Astyages; and Astyages himself had been conquered by Cyrus the father of Cambyses, his own son-in-law. That the regal position of Astyages was maintained long after his conquest by Cyrus in B.C. 560, was made clear from the histories of Ctesias and Justin."

The paper, of which the foregoing is the author's abstract, contained an elaborate exposition of the two Books of Ezra and Nehemiah.

Champagne.—A French Correspondent wishes to add a word or two in defence of the genuineness of champagne:—"Will you allow me to correct a mistake which has found a place in your 'Miscellanea' of May the 24th, and is a new proof how easily foreign affairs may be misconstrued and misrepresented! I refer to Dr. Clarke's plea in support of his former assertion, that champagne is made with green grapes and sugar. When Dr. Clarke appeals to M. Moët's letter, he rests his case upon a wrong reading of a French phrase. M. Moët's words were these:—'Cette liqueur (with sugar for its main ingredient), mêlée aux vins verts, corrige le vice de l'année.' But *vin vert*, in French, does not mean the juice of green grapes; it means the wine, with a rough taste and over-acidity, as it is obtained from grapes, which, indeed, have not attained the perfect ripeness of exceptional years, but are not green at any rate. M. Moët, in short, had no intention whatever to make a startling revelation; he only alluded to an old and most trite process. In unfavourable years, when the *mûre* has not the right degree of sweetness, sugar is added, to bring it up to the mark. That this is done for champagne, as it is done for other wines, is all the pith of M. Moët's evidence."

To CORRESPONDENTS.—A. J. E.—J. H.—G. C. M.—E. N. H. W.—J. B. R.—L.—I. C. B.—T. M.—W. C.—P. H. H.—H. M. F.—H. D.—Philalethes—F. B.—A Publisher—W. B.—received.

Erratum.—P. 762, col. 2, line 2 from bottom, for "Architects" read *Actuaries*.

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